

Twickenham Urban District Council.

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# ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

**Medical Officer of Health**

TOGETHER WITH

**THE REPORT**

ON THE

**Medical Inspection of Schools,**

FOR THE YEAR

**1913.**

GEORGE H. DUPONT, M.D., D.P.H.

*Medical Officer of Health and School Medical Officer.*

Twickenham :

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1914.

# Twickenham Urban District Council.

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## HEALTH COMMITTEE.

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Councillor G. A. FARRER (*Chairman*).

„ J. R. LEESON, M.D., C.C.

„ F. H. NASH.

„ W. J. PALMER.

„ J. PHELPS.

„ J. R. POTTERILL.

„ W. POUPART, J.P.

„ W. SLARK.

„ G. A. WADE, B.A.

„ A. WATKINS.

„ W. WEBB.

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*Matron at the Infectious Diseases Hospital :*

Miss E. QUICK.

*Health Visitor and School Nurse :*

Miss E. LLOYD-HARRIS.

*Inspector of Nuisances and Inspector under Shops Acts and  
Petroleum Acts :*

W. G. F. KINGSTON, M.S.I.A.,

*Assistant Inspectors of Nuisances :*

M. V. SUTCLIFFE, M.S.I.A.

A. G. KNIGHT.

*Clerk :*

C. W. NEWBERY.

*Medical Officer of Health, School Medical Officer and Superintendent of  
The Isolation Hospital :*

G. H. DUPONT, M.D., Ch.M., D.P.H.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
RADNOR HOUSE,  
TWICKENHAM,

*March 31st, 1914*

MR. CHAIRMAN AND GENTLEMEN.

I have the honour to submit to you my Fourth Annual Report on the health and sanitary condition of the district. The chief points which call for special mention, are the following :—

Population, Census 1912, 29,367.

Estimated Population, June 1913, 31,681.

Birth rate, per 1,000 living, 23·15

Death rate, per 1,000 living, 11·0.

Infantile Mortality, per 1,000 births, 79·0

Total Rainfall, 21·56 inches.

I am, Mr. Chairman and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient servant,

*George H. Dupont.*

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*Medical Officer of Health*

## NATURAL AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

**Physical features.**—The district is 2,415 acres in area, exclusive of that portion covered by water. It is bounded on the north by Heston and Isleworth, on the south by Teddington, on the east by the Thames, which separates it from Surrey, and on the west by Hanworth. Twickenham stands upon a porous subsoil of gravel and sand from twelve to twenty feet in depth, the gravels which lie on the London clay being efficiently drained by the rivers Thames and Crane, which run almost parallel throughout the district.

There is a considerable working class population especially living in the West Ward, but all the wards contain a proportion of working class dwellings. Whitton is increasing in size, but is still largely rural in character. The advent of the motor bus has increased the proportion of working class persons in the East Ward.

Twickenham is particularly fortunate in possessing public parks and recreation grounds which are not only extensive but well distributed throughout the district. The total acreage is composed of the following:—Marble Hill,  $66\frac{1}{2}$  acres; Moor Mead,  $11\frac{3}{4}$  acres; The Green,  $7\frac{1}{2}$  acres; Radnor House Gardens,  $3\frac{1}{4}$  acres; to which may be added the newly acquired Murray Park in Whitton, 9 acres, and which will be shortly opened to the public.

The rainfall amounted to 21·56 inches as compared with 27·18 inches in 1912, and was 2·95 inches below the average for the past 50 years.

## VITAL STATISTICS.

### Population.

Estimated to Midsummer 1913	...	...	31,681
At Census, 1911	...	...	29,367
„ 1901	...	...	20,991
„ 1891	...	...	16,026

The estimated population is calculated by the Registrar General's method, and the increase thereby indicated is confirmed by other indications. Houses have not been erected in large numbers, but there

has been a decided filling up of empty property and the employees of the motor bus garage in East Twickenham have occupied a large number of the smaller residential properties in that portion of the district.

The estimated populations of the different wards to the middle of 1913, are :—

South	...	...	6,090
East	...	...	8,079
West	...	...	8,782
Central	...	...	6,705
Whitton	...	...	2,025
Whole district			<hr/> 31,681 <hr/>

The average number of persons per inhabited house was 4·3 at the census of 1911.

### Births.

Nett number	...	...	734
Rate per thousand	...	...	23·15

Seven hundred and twenty-two births were registered as occurring in the district ; a higher figure than in any of the past four years, but the increase in the population has to be taken into account.

There still seems to be an indication that the decline in the birth rate is ceasing, at any rate as far as Twickenham is concerned ; and for the past three years the nett rate has not fallen below 23 per thousand.

Of the nett births, 370 were males and 364 were females.

### Deaths.

Nett number	...	...	351
Rate per thousand	...	...	11·0



The number of deaths of persons having their usual residence in Twickenham, but who died outside the district, was 80. This figure is practically the same as that for last year, and is included in the nett number (351). The number of deaths registered as actually occurring in Twickenham shows an increase of 39 as compared with the previous year.

The deaths from diarrhoeal and respiratory diseases (excluding tuberculosis), were each ten more than in the preceding year.

Taking into consideration the age and sex distribution of the population of Twickenham as compared with that of England and Wales at the time of the last census, the *corrected* death rate is 10·822, as compared with 13·4 for England and Wales generally.

The numbers of deaths from all causes at different ages were :—

Under							Over
1 year	1—2.	2—5.	5—15.	15—25.	25—45.	45—65.	65.
58	12	13	11	9	44	88	116

The deaths of children under one year of age were ten more than in 1912, the increase being accounted for by the increased prevalence of summer diarrhoea. An increase which is not so easy of explanation is that occurring between the ages of 45 and 65 years, where it is distributed fairly equally between bronchitis, pneumonia and other general diseases. The tendency during recent years has been for pneumonia to be the cause of a somewhat higher proportion of the total deaths.

In 1908 Pneumonia accounted for 5·1 per cent. of the total deaths.

„ 1910	„	6·0	„	„
„ 1912	„	7·1	„	„
„ 1913	„	8·5	„	„

Pulmonary tuberculosis during the same period has varied somewhat, but during the last two years has accounted for a diminished share of the total deaths.

In 1908 pulmonary tuberculosis accounted for 7·5 of the total deaths.

„ 1910	„	„	8·5	„
„ 1911	„	„	9·4	„
„ 1912	„	„	7·3	„
„ 1913	„	„	5·9	„

Cancer caused 38 deaths, and, excepting one death at 1 year of age from sarcoma, the average age at death was 60·8 years. The death rate from cancer was 1·1 per thousand of the estimated population.

The deaths of all residents occurring in or out of the district were distributed among the wards as follows :—

West.	East	Central.	South.	Whitton.
103	91	90	44	23

The death rate per thousand for each ward was :—

West.	East	Central.	South.	Whitton.
11·73	11·26	13·42	7·22	11·35

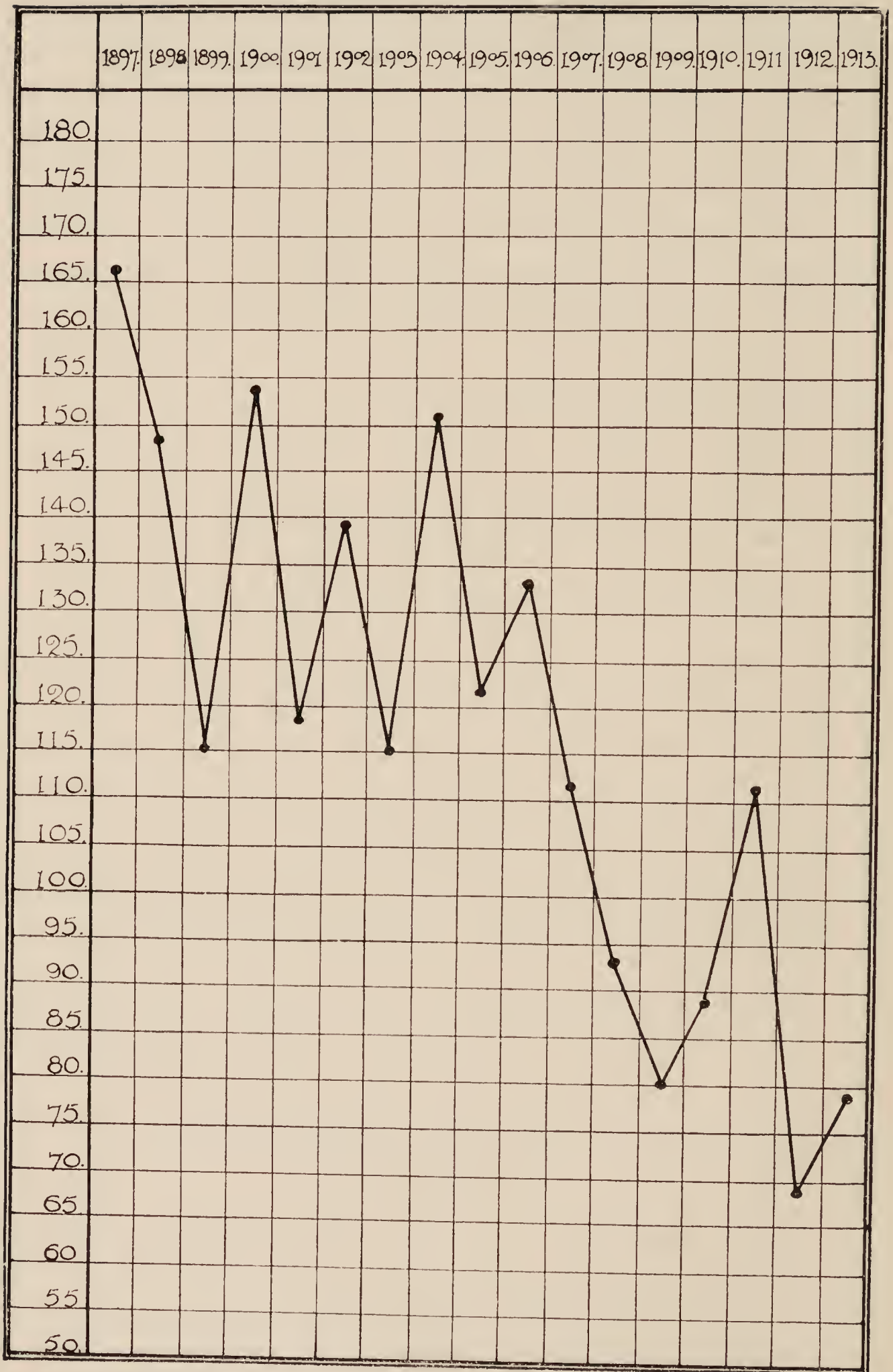
With the exception of the South Ward there was an increase in the number of deaths belonging to each of the wards compared with 1912. and the increase is more marked in the rates per thousand for the East and Whitton wards. The Central ward again showed the highest death rate, 13·42 for 1913 as compared with 12·2 in 1912.

**Inquests** have been held during the year on twenty-five bodies ; the causes of death being .—Suicide 2 ; accidents 11 ; natural causes 12.

**Deaths in Institutions.**—Fourteen deaths occurred in public institutions in the district. Of the deaths transferred to Twickenham from outside, 37 occurred in the Isleworth Infirmary ; 11 in the Royal Hospital, Richmond, 9 in the Middlesex County Asylum, and the rest in various institutions in London and elsewhere.

**Infant Mortality.**—The nett deaths of children under one year of age numbered 58, giving a rate of 79 per thousand nett births. This is somewhat higher than in the previous year (68). The deaths from summer diarrhoea were 11 in number, as compared with 2 in 1912, these accounting for the increased rate.

# INFANT MORTALITY FIGURES, 1897—1913.



Deaths under one year of age at per thousand Births registered.



The deaths among children under one year of age were distributed among the wards as follows :—

Ward.	West.	East.	South.	Central.	Whitton.
No. of deaths ... ..	21	14	6	10	7
Rate per thousand of the estimated ward popu- lation ... ..	2·3	1·7	0·98	1·4	3·4

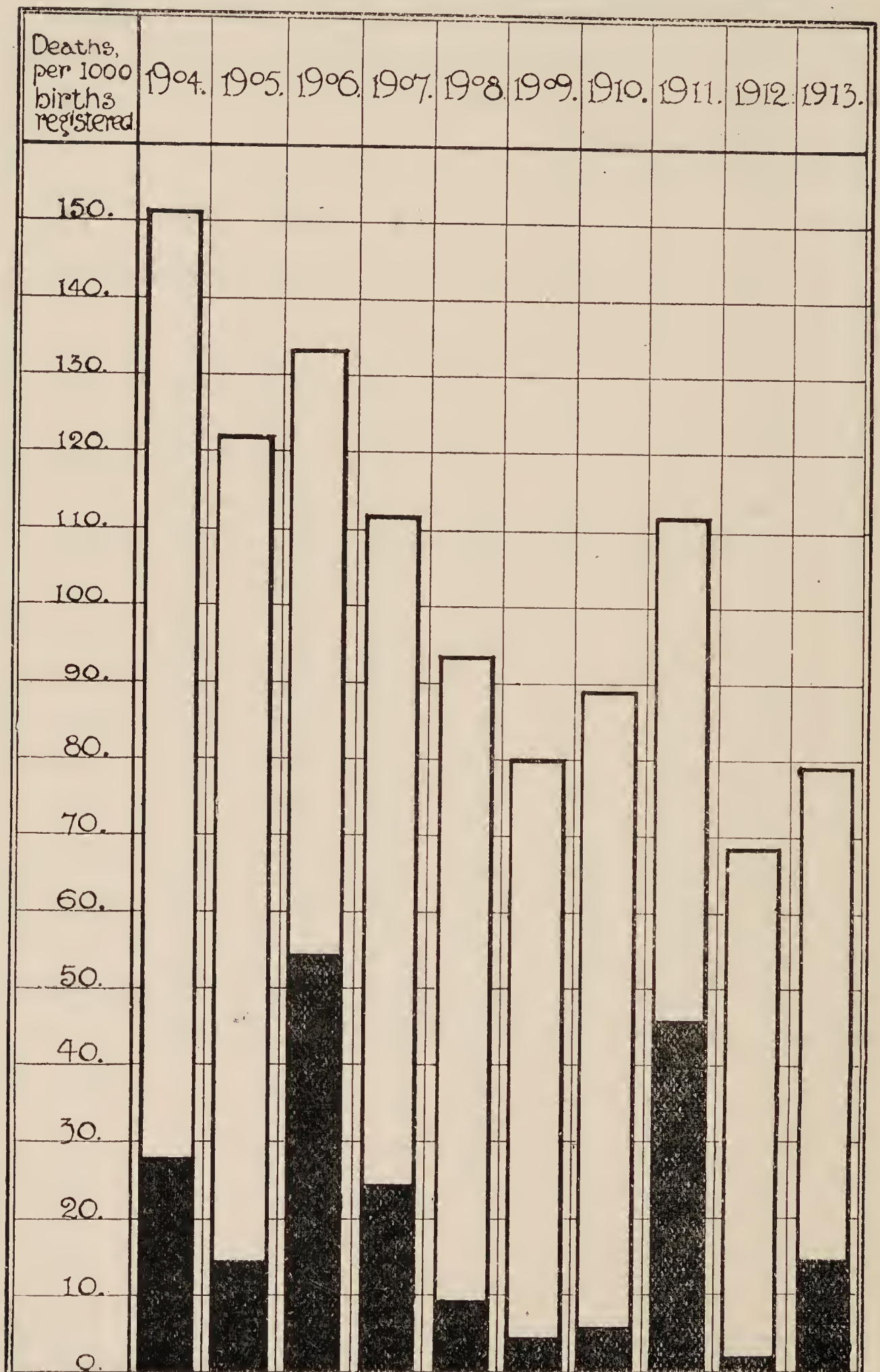
The death rate among infants under one year calculated on the population of the whole district was 1·8 per thousand.

Infant mortality is usually calculated as a rate per thousand of the registered births, but this has been impossible as regards each ward since the weekly returns of births received from the Registrar merely give only the total number of births and not the wards in which they occur. It will be possible to correct this defect when the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, 1909, is sanctioned.

Taking, however, the above figures, it will be seen that the rates in the Whitton and West wards are above the general rate for the district, but the comparatively small population in Whitton renders such a rate somewhat fallacious. The proportion of deaths due to digestive disorders among infants in the West ward is excessive.

Of the total of eleven deaths from summer diarrhoea throughout the whole district, seven occurred in the West ward, and of the four deaths ascribed to wasting or marasmus, three occurred in the West ward, and, although this ward contains a large proportion of poor persons, poverty is by no means confined to the West ward.

Chart showing number of deaths of children under one year of age, per 1,000 Registered Births with proportion (in black), caused by diarrhoea.



## RAINFALL IN INCHES DURING JULY, AUGUST AND SEPTEMBER.

	1910.	1911.	1912.	1913.
July ... ..	2.94	0.70	1.75	1.83
August ... ..	2.83	1.50	5.24	1.44
September ... ..	0.46	1.23	1.40	1.60

**SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES OF THE DISTRICT.****Water Supply.**

With the exception of some twenty cottages, the district is supplied by the Metropolitan Water Board.

The water from one shallow well was analysed during the year and was found to be so polluted as to be unfit for use for domestic purposes. The well was closed by the owner and the supply from the main substituted.

**Rivers and Streams.**

During the hot weather in July a nuisance arose in the river Crane in the neighbourhood of Cole's Bridge owing to the low level of the water, and consequent putrefaction of vegetable material in the stream. This was remedied immediately and the nuisance did not recur.

**Eel Pie Island.**

The insanitary condition of Eel Pie Island was referred to in my report for the year 1911, and it was hoped that some action would have been taken to remedy the defects existing. The increasing popularity of the island as a pleasure resort and place of summer residence renders its insanitary condition one of increasing importance.

The Hotel is the largest occupied building on the island, and there are fifteen other premises, the majority of which are used for residential purposes during the summer months only, although some are occupied



throughout the year. The resident population may be roughly estimated at 80 during the summer and autumn.

In addition in summer during week-ends there is a large influx of visitors who stay for a day or shorter periods, and on Saturdays and Sundays in fine weather these number thousands—three thousand would not be an excessive estimate on such days.

*The water supply* for domestic purposes is derived from that of the Metropolitan Water Board. This is laid on to the Hotel and a few of the better bungalows, but to the majority the water is carried by hand from those premises to which it is provided. In one case water is pumped from the river and used for domestic purposes after being boiled.

*Drainage and disposal of refuse.* There are no sewers on the island, and the excreta and domestic refuse have to be disposed of separately by each occupier. On eight premises there are cesspools, and in two or three of the newer bungalows these are apparently well constructed. The cesspools, however, do not appear to be emptied with any degree of regularity, and in some instances the occupiers were in doubt as to the position of them. That belonging to the Hotel, which receives the drainage from the kitchens, and from the closets and urinals (the latter being used by thousands of people during week-ends), is not only utterly inadequate in size but very imperfect in construction. It is so placed that at specially high tides the river covers it completely and washes in and out with the rising and falling of the water.

In 6 cases there are earth closets, and the excreta is disposed of by being buried in a hole within a few yards of the dwelling, and this is especially noticeable in the case of tea gardens visited by hundreds of people during the afternoons, the supply of fresh earth being limited and the area of ground for the disposal of the excreta utterly inadequate.

The ashes and domestic refuse from all the premises are deposited in heaps and partly disposed of by being burnt or buried. These heaps were infested with flies at the times of our visits during the summer, and were creating a considerable nuisance.



There can be no doubt that the time has come when the disposal of sewage and domestic refuse arising from the Island should be undertaken by the local authority. The conditions are such as would not be tolerated for a day on the mainland, and the matter requires serious attention.

### **Collection and Disposal of House Refuse.**

With the exception of the Island, the house refuse is collected weekly in covered carts by the Council's own employees, and all is burnt in the destructor.

The desirability of more frequent collection during hot weather was brought to the attention of the Committee, and the matter received their careful attention. It was found, however, that the increased cost of bi-weekly collection on the present lines would be so considerable that it could not be entertained.

### **Schools.**

The action taken with respect to the notifiable infectious diseases in the elementary schools has been similar to that described in last year's report.

If a case of diphtheria occurred in one of the classes, the throat of every child in that class was examined daily for ten days by the School Nurse or the School Medical Officer, and any doubtful case at once swabbed and excluded.

In this way whole classes were examined on sixty-five occasions, about fifty children being examined in each class on each occasion. Many cases of doubtful throat were also seen at the School "Inspection" Clinic. Altogether thirty-seven swabs were taken on these occasions and thirteen cases of diphtheria discovered.

Notification by the teachers, of measles, whooping cough, chicken-pox and mumps is also made to the Medical Officer of Health, and in some cases the homes of affected children have been visited by the

Health Nurse, but the limited staff has rendered extensive or systematic visiting impossible.

The exclusion of contacts has been carried out in every case as regards the compulsorily notifiable diseases, and in a majority of the cases of the minor diseases.

School closure has not been recommended on any occasion during the year.

### Drainage and Sewerage.

The district is sewered on the separate system and the disposal of sewage carried out at the Mereway works.

I am indebted to the courtesy of the Surveyor for many particulars, including the following :—

No. of yards of new surface water sewers constructed ... ..	538
No. of yards of soil water sewers constructed ...	240
Plans approved for re-laying of house drains ...	25

### SANITARY INSPECTION OF THE DISTRICT.

The figures and other details of the work of sanitary inspection have been supplied to me by the Inspector of Nuisances, as required by the 1910 Order of the Local Government Board.

The increase of this work is the most striking feature of this year's report, and the increase has not only been numerical but in the direction of efficiency. It has at last been possible for the Medical Officer of Health to obtain a satisfactory report when required, and the all round improvement has been much appreciated by him.

Apart from the primary inspections under the Housing Regulations, details of which are given later, complete sanitary inspections have been made in all houses in the following roads, Ferry Road, Holly Road, Garfield Road, Colne Road, Warwick Road, and Seymour Gardens, in addition to those specially inspected on complaint, after infectious disease, or where such inspections seemed necessary.

For these purposes 5,860 visits, primary inspections, and re-inspections have been made during the year. The number of complaints received and attended to was 154.

The total defects or nuisances discovered numbered 1,383, and were all remedied by the end of the year.

**Notices Served.**—The number of intimation notices served was 287, most of these referring to several separate defects. To secure attention to these many visits were paid to the premises and owners and builders interviewed at the office. By this means the Inspector has succeeded in getting the bulk of the work done without statutory notices, and much friction avoided.

Statutory Notices were served under the Public Health Acts and proceedings were authorised for non-compliance in 260 instances, but in no case was the issue of a summons necessary.

**Result of Notices.**—The total number of nuisances abated was 1,383. A detailed summary of the sanitary improvements effected is given in the County Council Table, but the following deserve special mention.

One hundred and fourteen rooms were *cleansed* and limewashed.

To remedy *dampness*, thirty roofs were made water-tight, 103 cases of defective spouting were dealt with, dampcourses were inserted in eight houses, two damp basements remedied, and one gable wall cemented.

**Drainage.**—The smoke test was applied to the drainage and plumber's work of 78 houses and, in consequence, 39 main drains and 137 branch drains were re-laid, 57 inspection chambers, 18 ventilating shafts, 20 fresh air inlets, 9 soil pipes, 127 gullies, and 37 new closet pans have been provided.

**Overcrowding.**—Notices with reference to overcrowding were served on the tenants of eight houses and the numbers reduced. In one case a statutory notice was necessary before the nuisance was abated.



**Refreshment Houses.**—Much attention has been given to the question of cleanliness of urinals in these places, and in addition to verbal warnings, seven intimation notices were sent for cleansing and repairing those attached to public houses.

### **Premises Controlled by Byelaws.**

**Inspection of Slaughterhouses.**—There are eight registered slaughterhouses and one licensed annually, one other being licensed but is now unoccupied. Of the registered slaughterhouses, five are in constant use, the remaining three being but seldom utilised.

The bulk of the meat sold in the district is brought down from the London markets.

The slaughterhouses have been kept under close observation, 343 visits having been paid to them during the year, and the attention which it has been possible to pay to the important subject of the inspection of meat and other foods is one of the most gratifying features of the work during the past year.

**Offensive Trades.**—The only offensive trade carried on in Twickenham is fish frying, the byelaws for the regulation of which were made and approved in 1912. It is carried out on five premises, and each has been frequently visited and inspected. The existing shops are for the most part cleanly and well conducted. During the year two have been caused to be altered in such a manner as to bring them into conformity with the byelaws, and two have been closed.

**Disposal of Manure.**—Much attention was paid to manure receptacles and collection of manure during the summer. In July a circular letter was sent by the Medical Officer of Health to occupiers of forty premises enclosing a copy of the Council's byelaws in reference to manure receptacles, as it was found that a considerable number, although constructed within comparatively recent years, did not conform to the requirements of the byelaws. These require that not only shall the receptacle be properly constructed, but that it shall be furnished with a suitable cover and shall be emptied at least once in every week,



which requirements in the past seem to have been honoured more in the breach than in the observance. As a result of the action taken in this matter, eleven receptacles were properly constructed, six excessive accumulations of manure, which were not in a receptacle, were removed, and three large pits were reduced in size and suitably covered.

**Cowsheds, Dairies and Milkshops.**—The state of the register on December 31st, was :—

Cowkeepers, 7 ; Purveyors of milk, 56. Total persons registered, 63.

Removed during the year :—Cowkeepers, 3 ; Purveyors, 8.

Added during the year. Purveyors, 9.

The Inspector of Nuisances states that the majority of the cowsheds in the district are in a satisfactory condition, but one or two leave a good deal to be desired. He especially emphasises the indifference of the average cowkeeper to the necessity of keeping milk absolutely clean, and draws attention to the fact that a farmer will allow the udders and flanks of his cows to be plastered with their excreta and make no effort to keep them clean, while the same man will have his horses groomed with the most scrupulous care. The suggestion to the employees that they should wash their hands and cleanse the udders of the cows before milking, so as to remove obvious filth, is apparently, in many cases, considered an exhibition of faddiness, to be humoured by apparent agreement for the moment and to be neglected as soon as the Inspector's back is turned. The filthy practice of dipping the hands into the milk at intervals during the milking process has also been noticed on more than one occasion.

It becomes almost wearisome again to deplore the fact that milk is so frequently sold from general shops, which are entirely unsuited for the purpose, and the fact that careful covering and cleansing of the receptacles is insisted upon does not lessen the need for fresh legislation on this subject.

**Inspection of Meat and Other Foods.**—In addition to the inspection of slaughterhouses, the following have received systematic visits :—

<i>Description.</i>				<i>No. of Visits.</i>
Butcher shops	...	...	...	603
Fish shops	...	...	...	498
Restaurants	...	...	...	108

The shops were principally visited on Saturday evenings. The restaurants were on the whole well kept and clean, the meat in the butchers shops was generally of very fair quality.

The bulk of the unsound food disposed of was surrendered voluntarily ; the total weight seized or surrendered amounting to 1,646 pounds, made up as follows :—

Beef	...	...	...	702 lbs.
Pork	...	...	...	440 „
Fish	...	...	..	467 „
Poultry or game	.	...		9 „
Fruit and vegetables	...			28 „

In one case the entire carcase of a cow affected with generalised tuberculosis was seized and afterwards condemned by a magistrate. The carcase had been cut up into quarters, the diseased tissues almost entirely cut away, and the meat prepared in the usual way for sale. Proceedings were instituted, but the butcher having satisfied the magistrate that, although he was away from home at the time, he had not intended to sell the meat, the case was dismissed.

**Bakehouses.**—These were regularly visited throughout the year. The statutory whitewashing has been carried out in each, but some cases it was necessary to draw the attention of the occupier to the neglect of this duty before the works were undertaken.

On notice being received from H.M. Inspector of Factories that a drain opened into an underground bakehouse, the necessary steps were taken and the condition immediately remedied.

**Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.**—The duties in connection with these Acts are carried out by the County Council of Middlesex,

The following particulars of samples taken in the parish of Twickenham during the year ended have been received from the Chief of the Weights and Measures Staff of the County Council.

				<i>Taken.</i>	<i>Adulterated.</i>
Milk	...	...	...	108	14
Butter	...	...	...	57	4
Cream	...	...	...	9	3
Drugs	...	...	...	6	1
Sausages	...	...	...	4	2
Meat Food	...	...	...	2	—
Jam	...	...	...	1	—
Gin	...	...	...	1	—
Margarine	...	...	...	1	—
				<hr/>	<hr/>
				189	24
				<hr/>	<hr/>
Prosecutions	...	...	...	4	

### Housing.

It has been possible this year to carry out systematically extensive house to house inspections under the Town Planning Act, from the list which has been prepared by the Medical Officer of Health under the 1910 Regulations.

One hundred and fifty-five houses have been inspected in this way during the year, details of which are shown in the following table :—

Premises.	No. of houses inspected.	No. in reference to which Intimation Notices were sent.	No requiring Statutory Notices.	No. recommended for Closing Order by M.O.H.	No. closed.	No. remedied without Closing Order.	No. remedied after Closing.	General character of defects.
Hamilton Road, Nos. 1—66.	65	65	65	—	—	65	—	Defective water cisterns, unpaved yards, and dirty interiors.
Bell Lane, Nos. 2, 4, 6, 8, 10, 12.	6	2	—	4	—	—	—	Dampness, defective drains, defective lighting and ventilation.
Colne Road, Nos. 10—40.	15	9	—	6	—	9	—	Defective lighting and drains, dampness, and unpaved yards.
Colne Road, Nos. 166, 168, 170.	3	—	—	3	—	—	—	Do. do.
South Road, Nos. 3—14.	12	12	—	—	—	12	—	Dampness, defective roofs, drains, and unpaved yards.
The Green, Nos. 90 & 92.	2	2	2	—	—	—	—	Dampness, drains defective, and defective yard paving.
Marsh Farm Road, Nos. 25—33.	9	9	—	—	—	3	—	Defective drains and yard paving, dampness.
Fourth Cross Nos. 16, 17 & 18.	3	3	—	—	—	3	—	Dampness, defective lighting, drains, and yard paving.
Mann's Cottages, Whifton.	9	—	—	9	9	—	—	General dilapidation, defective lighting, and ventilation, walls, drains, and yards.
Garfield Road, Nos. 1—20.	20	20	20	—	—	20	—	Dampness, defective roofs, yard paving, and want of cleanliness.
Stuart's Place, Holly Road.	7	7	—	—	—	—	—	Lighting and ventilation, dampness and dirty state.
Bell Lane, Nos. 25, 27 & 29.	3	3	—	—	—	3	—	Defective drains, roofs, and dirty interiors.
Totals ...	154	133	87	22	9	112	—	



Table of Houses in reference to which Closing Orders, &c., were made.

Premises.	Date when represented by M.O.H.	Date when Closing Order made.	Date of determination of Closing Order,	Demo-lished.	Works in hand.
5, Zion Row	July 15, 1912	July 25, 1912	—	—	In hand
398, Richmond Road	Sept. 16, 1912	Sept. 25, 1912	Mar. 17, 1913	—	—
Mann's Cottages, Whittton (9 cottages) ...	July 14, 1913	Sept. 25, 1913	—	—	—
Colne Road, Nos. 24-34 (even numbers) ..	Oct. 12, 1913	—	—	—	—
Bell Lane, Nos. 2, 4, 8, and 12 ...	Oct. 17, 1913	—	—	—	—
Colne Road, Nos. 166, 168, & 170	Nov. 17, 1913	—	—	—	—

There has been practically no building of houses for the working classes during the year, and, although most of the working class dwellings are occupied, the demand for these does not appear to be in excess of the supply. The type of residence in demand is the separate cottage. These are preferred to the small flat, which is not in demand, and, although in some cases flats at a rent of 5s. 6d. let well, in another part of the district several of these flats are vacant, while small cottages in the same street are all let. There has been a tendency to division of some of the basement houses into premises for two occupiers, the basement and middle floor going together and the upper story being separately let. The upper floors let fairly well as flats at £26—£30 per annum, but the lower portions are not in demand. Probably the opening of one or two works in the West Ward may increase the demand for working class dwellings in the district.

#### SUMMARY OF DEFECTS REMEDIED DURING 1913.

Dustbins provided ...	...	...	...	...	75
Yards paved ...	...	...	...	...	123

Yards repaired	...	...	...	...	...	16
Dirty houses cleansed	...	...	...	..		21
Overcrowded houses	...	...	...	...		8
Dampness from defective guttering, &c.	...	...		...		15
New flush cisterns provided to W.C.'s	...	...		...		13
Defective eaves guttering and rain water pipes repaired or renewed	...	...	...	...		88
Floors repaired or renewed	...	...	...	..		31
Defective ceiling and walls repaired	...	...		...		13
Rooms stripped, limewashed and cleansed	...			...		114
Ashpits (fixed) abolished	...	...	...	...		2
Water supply cisterns renewed, repaired, covered or cleansed	...	...	...	...	...	74
Drains re-laid	...	...	...	..	...	39
Branch drains re-laid	...	...	...	...		137
Inspection chambers provided	...	...	...	...		57
Ventilation shafts provided	...	...	...	...		18
Fresh air inlets provided	...	...	...	...		20
Soil pipes provided	...	...	...	...	...	9
Gullies provided	...	...	...	...	...	127
New W.C. pans provided	...	...	...	...		37
Surface water drains provided and repaired	...			...		3
New W.C. apartments provided	...	...	...	...		5
New sinks provided	...	...	...	...	...	40
Ventilation under floors provided	...	...	...	...		2
W.C. flush cisterns repaired	...	...	...	...		46
Foul W.C.s cleansed	..	...	...	...		9
Foul accumulations removed	...	...	...	...		6
Animals and fowls so kept as to be a nuisance	...			...		16
Dirty yards cleansed	...	...	...	...		2
Choked drains unstopped	...	...	...	...		41
Defective gullies and channels repaired	...	...		...		29
Defective brickwork, walls, chimney stacks, &c., repaired...	...	...	...	...	...	20
Defective W.C. apartments repaired	...	...		...		2
Dampcourses inserted	...	...	...	...		8

Defective sink waste pipes repaired	...	...	8
Defective soil pipe repaired	...	...	1
Additional ventilation and lighting provided	...	12	
Damp cellars remedied	...	...	2
Defective fresh air inlets repaired	...	...	2
Foul urinals cleansed	...	...	3
Gable wall cemented	...	...	1
New scullery and wash-house provided	...	...	1
Foul and dilapidated outbuildings removed	...	...	1
Receptacle provided for bones and offal	...	...	1
Defective roofs repaired	...	...	30
Workshops cleansed and limewashed	...	...	4
Workshop ventilated	...	...	1
Slaughterhouses repaved	...	...	2
„ limewashed	...	...	1
Stable floors repaired	...	...	1
Stable cleansed	...	...	1
Manure pits provided	...	...	11
Bakehouse—drain opening removed	...	...	1
„ limewashed	...	...	2
Dairy, drain opening removed	...	...	1
Fried fish byelaws infringed...	...	...	4
Cowsheds—floors repaired	...	...	7
„ re-drained	...	...	7
„ new cesspool provided...	...	...	1
Sundry nuisances	...	...	11

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## SANITARY ADMINISTRATION OF THE DISTRICT.

1. **Staff.**—The year has probably seen more changes in the Sanitary Staff than any previous year in Twickenham. Mr. Sutcliffe was appointed to fill the vacancy caused by the fatal accident to Mr. Streatfield; at the beginning of April Mr. Kingston was appointed to the position of Chief Sanitary Inspector, and, in consequence, it became possible to relieve Mr. Knight of the more arduous duties. The



appointment of a clerk to the Health Departments was also made during the later months of the year.

The improvement in the efficiency of the departments produced by these changes has been most marked. Sanitary inspection of the district has not only been put on a basis in accordance with modern ideas, but the work has been carried out in a thoroughly keen and efficient manner. It was necessary for Mr. Kingston to organise the entire work of sanitary inspection, and the way this been carried out has, I know, met with the approval of the Committee, and has been particularly gratifying to your medical officer. A new system of keeping records of work done has been commenced, and all have combined to make this one which will be of real value in the future. This has necessitated considerable trouble and work, and I desire to express my appreciation of the loyal co-operation of the staff in endeavouring to raise the Public Health Department to the position it should have occupied years ago.

**2. Hospital Accommodation and Administration**—The Council's Isolation Hospital at Whitton has been used for the reception of scarlet fever and diphtheria during the year. The available ground is eight acres in extent, and the buildings consist of a separate administration block containing seven bedrooms; a large ward block consisting of two wards (with a side ward off each and a room upstairs, originally intended as a playroom); and an observation block of two small wards. \* On a basis of 2,000 cubic feet for each patient there is accommodation for sixteen patients in the wards of the main block and four in the small block. By converting the playroom into a ward, space for three or four more patients was procured, making a total capacity for twenty-four patients at Whitton.

The small Mereway Hospital is at present unfurnished and is reserved for smallpox. It would accommodate eight patients if necessary.

The resident staff at the Whitton Hospital consist of the matron, two staff nurses, and two probationers, one ward maid, one laundry



maid, and one cook. The outdoor staff consists of one gardener, who, in addition, works the steam disinfecter.

The Hospital, when built some five or six years ago, was intended solely for the reception of scarlet fever. When in 1911 the Council decided to undertake the treatment of diphtheria, cases of this disease were at first placed in the small observation block. It was soon found that it was useless for this purpose on account of its limited accommodation, the absence of any beds for observation or isolation, and its distance from the administration block. The diphtheria cases were, therefore, transferred to the main block and the large playroom upstairs was converted into a ward.

When a number of cases of diphtheria larger than the ward would accommodate were admitted, these were transferred to the larger wards downstairs. By considerable manœuvring, and owing to the fact that during the years 1911 and 1912 scarlet fever was almost absent from the district, it was possible to carry on the work in this way. During the past year, however, scarlet fever has been much more prevalent in Twickenham, as in the country generally. In consequence, although it has been possible to receive every case of both diseases that it was considered necessary to isolate, the condition has been such that one cannot feel justified in recommending the Council to continue the present arrangement. After prolonged trial one is convinced that special accommodation for diphtheria is required, and this matter is now being brought to the attention of the Health Committee.

Although, as above stated, practically all cases have been removed to Hospital, the accommodation has at times been overstrained.

The total admissions during 1913 were 147. As the cases of scarlet fever and diphtheria notified numbered 171, it will be seen that 86 per cent. of all notified cases were removed to Hospital.

The following is a table of the notification of scarlet fever and diphtheria and the percentage of cases removed during the past five years.

Year.	Scarlet Fever.			Diphtheria.		
	Cases notified.	Number removed	Per cent. removed	Cases notified.	Number removed	Per cent. removed.
1909	102	81	79	30	—	—
1910	65	59	82	31	—	—
1911	41	34	82	97	52	63 (Mar.-Dec.)
1912	28	16	57	89	61	68
1913	119	107	90	52	40	78

It will be seen from the above that in the two-and-a-half years during which diphtheria has been admitted to Hospital, the tendency has been to request removal to Hospital in an increasing proportion of the cases, more than three-quarters of the cases which occurred during the past year being admitted to the Hospital for treatment. Removal was also requested in nearly all the cases of scarlet fever.

During the last quarter of the year, the small isolation block was converted into a convalescent block for the reception of those patients who were in the convalescent stage of scarlet fever, and who were nearing the time for discharge.

This has affected a much needed improvement, and it is no longer necessary to discharge patients from the general wards, with only the usual disinfectant bath and change of clothing.

Six return cases occurred during the year.

There were two deaths, both being cases of diphtheria, one occurring a few minutes and the other two days after admission.

The number of admissions has been the highest since the Hospital was opened and, in consequence, a large increase of the work of administration and nursing has followed. It was necessary to curtail summer holidays, all ordinary times for rest and exercise had to be given up, and I fear the illness of some of the nursing staff must be attributed to these causes.

I desire to express my appreciation of the willing manner in which the matron and nurses dealt with the great pressure of work which continued without intermission during the last six months of the year, and is still continuing.

**(3). Adoptive Acts in force in the district.**

The Infectious Diseases (Prevention) Act, 1890, excepting Section 5.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1890, excepting parts 5 and 6.

\*The Private Street Works Act, 1892.

The Baths and Wash-houses Acts, 1846—1899.

The Public Health Acts (Amendment) Act, 1907, Sections 15—31, both inclusive, and Section 33 in part 2. The whole of parts, 3, 4, 5 and 6, together with Sections 81 (down to the word “offences”), 83, 86, 87 and 88 of Part 7; the whole of parts 8 and 9, and sections 92, 93 and 95 of part 10.

*Byelaws in force in the district.*

\*New Streets and Buildings.

Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops.

Nuisances.

Sanitary Conveniences.

Removal of Noxious and Offensive Matters.

Offensive Trade (Fish Fryer).

Slaughter Houses.

\*Pleasure Grounds and Parks.

Allotments.

Common Lodging Houses.

\*Libraries.

Those marked with an \* are not administered by the Health Committee.

**(4). Bacteriological Work.**—During the year 204 swabs were taken for examination, 88 being taken by medical practitioners, 37 by the Medical Officer or the School Nurse, the remainder being taken at



the Isolation Hospital to ascertain the fitness of patients for discharge, &c.

Two specimens of sputum were sent for examination for tubercle bacilli and two for the widal reaction for typhoid fever.

In fourteen cases of suspected ringworm the hair was examined microscopically by the Medical Officer.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER TUBERCULOSIS.

Crude death rate per thousand of the population :—

Pulmonary ...	...	...	0·66
All forms ...	...	...	1·07

In all, ninety-seven notifications were received. Sixty-six referred to pulmonary and thirty-one to non-pulmonary tuberculosis. As is inevitable, there has been considerable duplication of notification. The above figures only refer to cases notified here for the first time, but when it is remembered that a tuberculous patient may reside in a number of places during his illness, and, as we have not means of ascertaining whether these cases have been already notified in other towns, these figures do not afford any indication of the amount of tuberculosis originating in Twickenham.

Of the cases notified forty-three pulmonary and eighteen non-pulmonary were under observation at the end of the year, the remainder have either left the district or died.

- (a) Every case has been visited on receipt of primary notification, and full particulars obtained as to the occupation or school, circumstances, history of illness, possible sources of infection, conditions of house and surroundings, and opportunity for separate bedroom accommodation, together with names, ages and occupations of all members of the household.



- (b) Subsequent visits have been made systematically, usually every two or three months, except to the cases of patients in better circumstances. Regular subsequent visiting was impossible in the earlier months of the year, but after the appointment of the present health nurse, who is an experienced tuberculosis visitor, this was carried out more satisfactorily.
- (c) In many cases the children, who were attending the elementary schools, from houses in which cases of pulmonary tuberculosis existed or had recently existed, were specially examined by me in my capacity as School Medical Officer, mostly at intervals of three to four months.
- (d) The County of Middlesex is the authority with which the Middlesex Insurance Committee have made arrangements for the treatment of tuberculosis. Under this arrangement the County has undertaken the treatment of cases occurring among insured persons in Twickenham—twenty-six cases in all. In these cases the necessary enquiries were made by us, and the same particulars were again obtained later by special officers of the County Health Department, subsequent visits being also made by the same officers. As these visits were made without reference to us, and as we are compelled in the first place to make these visits under the Regulations, it follows that much overlapping has occurred. The majority of the cases of tuberculosis, being uninsured persons, have not received any assistance from the County. It is much to be hoped that the County of Middlesex will be able to deal with the problem in a more satisfactory manner in the coming year.

The present methods of dealing with tuberculosis are certainly calculated to prolong the life of the tuberculous individual, but looking at the subject more broadly, the question may well arise, “are these

methods not more calculated to increase the numbers of tuberculous persons living?" Disinfection of the premises and the partial treatment of a few of the cases are not measures upon which much reliance would be placed if we were endeavouring to stamp out any other infectious disease, and they are not likely to be more successful in tuberculosis. One is inclined strongly to the belief that the same amount of money spent in improving the condition of the poorer classes, especially in regard to housing, would be a far more effective and rapid method of ultimately banishing this disease, than the provision of treatment, however elaborate, for cases which have already arisen.

The insured persons in Twickenham treated at the expense of the Middlesex Insurance Committee during 1913 were dealt with in the following way :—

(a)	Clare Hall Sanatorium ...	...	...	11
	Midhurst „ ...	...	...	1
	Fairlight „ ...	...	...	1
	Ventnor „ ...	...	...	1
(b)	Winchmore Hill Hospital ...	...	...	3
(c)	Domiciliary only... ..	...	...	9
				—
				26
				—

Of the above, twelve persons received domiciliary treatment in addition to institutional treatment.

## PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER ACUTE INFECTIOUS DISEASES.

In all 281 notifications were received relating to acute infectious diseases, and 97 to tuberculosis of all forms. The figures for each disease being as follows :—

Scarlet Fever ...	119	Puerperal Fever}	4
Diphtheria ...	52	Enteric Fever ...	1
Erysipelas ...	6	Poliomyelitis ...	2
Tuberculosis	{	Pulmonary ...	66
		Non-pulmonary	31

Compared with the year 1912, there were 49 more notifications, the increase being entirely due to scarlet fever.

The attack rates per 1,000 of the population compared with those of the Urban Districts of England and Wales (excluding London) are indicated in the following table :—

Year.	Scarlet Fever.		Diphtheria.	
	Twickenham.	England (U. D's.)	Twickenham.	England (U. D's.)
1911.	1.39	2.91	3.30	1.22
1912.	0.91	2.95	2.90	1.17
1913.	3.75	3.18	1.64	1.41

**Scarlet Fever.**—Of the 119 cases of scarlet fever, only 15 occurred during the first half of the year; the notifications for each month being :—

January	...	1	July ...	...	18
February	...	4	August	...	10
March	...	3	September	...	15
April...	...	—	October	...	17
May ...	...	1	November	...	24
June ...	...	6	December	..	20
		<hr/>	<hr/>		
		15	104		
<hr/>					
119					

The increase in the cases of scarlet fever commenced in Twickenham somewhat in advance of the usual seasonal rise. The few cases in June were scattered irregularly throughout the district. The cases in July were mostly in the Central ward, especially in the neighbourhood of the riverside. In all probability these originated from a case in



St. Mary's Schools, which was not recognised until a subsequent case arose in the house, when the other children were found to be "peeling." A similar case accounted for a limited outbreak in Whitton in September. In this, a case notified on September 17th, was found to have contracted scarlet fever some 3—4 weeks before admission, the mother only seeking medical advice when the child was almost dying from kidney disease, resulting from the attack. A case having been notified from a house opposite a fortnight before, all the houses in this street where there were children were visited by the Medical Officer of Health, and four more cases were found in the desquamation stage. They were isolated, all contacts excluded from school, and no further case arose.

In October and November, a considerable number of cases occurred in Orleans School. In the course of investigations one case was discovered that was probably the cause of several others. A girl was absent from school for several days on account of illness, and was then re-admitted, the nature of the disease apparently not being suspected. When her sister developed scarlet fever two or three weeks later, the first child was examined by us and found to be desquamating, but by this time several other children in the school had contracted the disease.

When scarlet fever is prevalent in London and practically all the suburbs, it is frequently impossible to trace the origin of any particular case. In every case of infectious disease that arose, the home was visited by one of the sanitary inspectors and full particulars taken. In no case could the milk supply be held in any way responsible; the only case of scarlet fever among dairy employees occurred some time after the subsidence of the outbreak in the district in which he delivered milk, and his illness was more probably a result rather than the cause of the outbreak in that area.

On considering the various aspects of the subject one is compelled to conclude that the spread of scarlet fever is largely, if not entirely, determined by the non-recognition of mild cases of the disease. Whether certain persons can be "carriers" of scarlet fever, as in the case of diphtheria or typhoid fever, is a point that cannot be definitely



decided. Analogy certainly seems to point to such a possibility, and it seems to be a reasonable suggestion that an ear discharge, which has once been infective, but which has ceased for some time, may recur and again assume an infective character.

**Diphtheria.**—The number of cases notified has been decidedly less than in either of the two preceding years. There was not any extensive outbreak, cases occurring in each month excepting in April and May, as will be seen by the following list :—

January	...	6	July	...	...	3
February	...	5	August	...	...	1
March	..	11	September	...	...	5
April	...	—	October	...	...	1
May...	...	—	November	...	...	8
June	...	4	December	...	...	8
		<hr/>			<hr/>	
		26			26	
<hr/>						
52						

Of the eleven cases in March, seven occurred among children attending St. Mary's Schools (all departments) and four of these were discovered during the special examination of infected classes by the Medical Officer of health previously referred to.

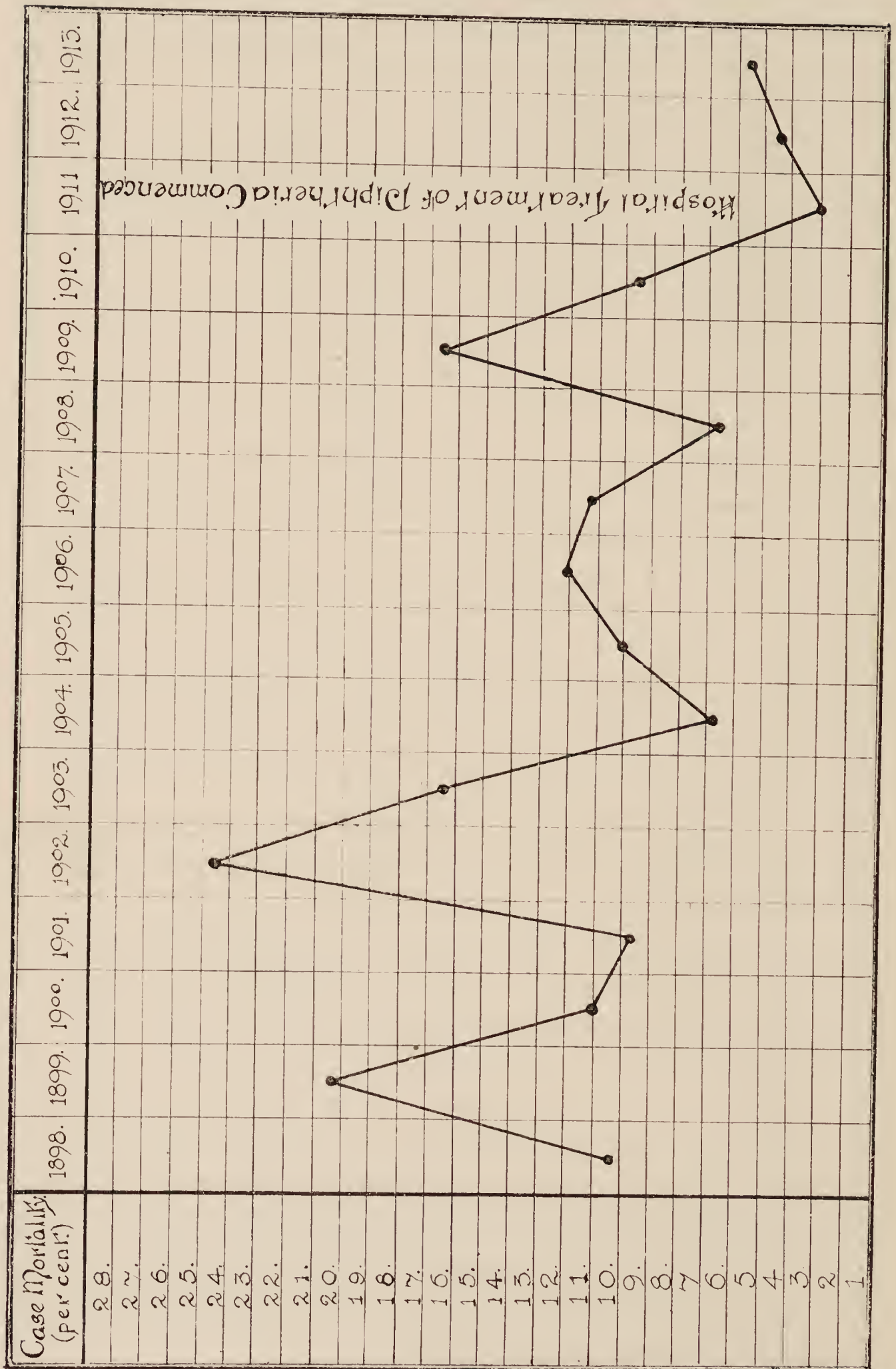
In no case could any reason other than personal contact be definitely assigned.

Full advantage has been taken of the facilities for diagnosis placed at the disposal of the medical practitioners in the town, and many cases have in consequence been diagnosed that would otherwise have been missed.

Of the three deaths ascribed to diphtheria, two occurred in the Isolation Hospital, the third was in a case on which an inquest was held, the condition not being recognised during life and in consequence was not notified. Even if this case is included, the mortality rate was 5·6 per cent. of the persons attacked, a very favourable figure.

The mortality rates per cent. of cases attacked for the past 16 years are shown in the following chart :—

Chart showing case mortality (per cent.) of Diphtheria since 1898.



**Typhoid Fever.**—One notification was received, the case not being recognised until shortly before death. Careful enquiries did not throw any light on the causation, and no other case occurred in the district.

**Whooping Cough and Measles.**—The only guide to the prevalence of these diseases which is at our disposal, is the number of notifications received from the teachers in the elementary schools, and these, of course, do not refer to children under school age. Eighty cases of measles and 58 of whooping cough were reported from the schools. Most of these were received in July and the subject is referred to in my report as School Medical Officer. Whatever the total number of cases, the type was not very severe, only three deaths from measles and two from whooping cough being registered.

**Puerperal Fever.**—Four cases were notified and one proved fatal. The County of Middlesex is the authority for administering the Midwives Act.

**Acute Poliomyelitis.**—Two cases of acute poliomyelitis occurred during the year, both being notified in September. The following are the details:—

	Onset.	When notified.	Part involved.	Result.
<i>Case I.</i>	July 28th, 1913. Gradual, at Clacton after journey by boat from London.	Sept. 19th, 1913.	Extensors of left thigh.	Partial recovery.
<i>Case II.</i>	Sudden. Four days before noti- fication.	Sept. 8th, 1913.	One leg below knee.	Partial recovery.

**Investigation and Disinfection after Infectious Disease.**—In each case the home was visited and full enquiries made, these being subsequently tabulated in the register in the office.



Disinfection has also been carried out, both by fumigation of the rooms by formalin, and removal of infected bedding to the steam disinfecter at the Hospital.

The present arrangement, under which the bedding, &c., passes through several hands in its removal for disinfection and return, has not worked satisfactorily during the year. It would be much preferable if one person were made responsible for this, and the matter is being mentioned in the special report to the Committee.

## MEANS FOR PREVENTING MORTALITY IN CHILD-BIRTH AND IN INFANCY.

The Middlesex County Council is the authority under the Midwives Act, 1902.

The subject of infant mortality is also dealt with on page 7. It has long been our conviction that the adoption of the Notification of Births Act, 1907, in the district was necessary, and on receiving our report on the subject in November last, the Council decided to apply for permission to adopt the Act, and while this report was in preparation the sanction of the Local Government Board was received.

In order to ascertain approximately the number of cases of *summer diarrhœa* that arose in the latter months of last summer, after the promise of the kind co-operation of each of the medical men practising in Twickenham, a system of voluntary notification of this disease, in children under two years, was instituted. In response fifty-six notifications were received, one in July, thirty-four in August, and twenty-one in September. This does not represent all the cases of summer diarrhœa in the district, but as eleven deaths occurred from this disease in a not exceptionally hot summer, some special measures are certainly required to deal with this scourge.

The work done in connection with the disposal of stable manure is referred to on page 16, and a chart showing the incidence of summer diarrhœa is given on page 10.

## WORKSHOPS, WORKPLACES, &c.

The record of work done in this connection is set out in the special tables of the Home Office which follow :—



1.—INSPECTION OF FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Premises.	Number of		
	Inspections.	Written Notices.	Prosecutions
Factories ... .. (Including Factory Laundries)	39	5	Nil.
Workshops ... .. (Including Workshop Laundries)	186	37	Nil.
Workplaces ... .. (Other than Outworkers' premises included in Part 3 of this Report)	17	—	Nil.
Total ... ..	242	42	Nil.

2.—DEFECTS FOUND IN FACTORIES, WORKSHOPS AND WORKPLACES.

Particulars.	Number of Defects.			Number of Prosecutions.
	Found.	Remedied.	Referred to H.M. Inspector.	
<i>Nuisances under the Public Health Acts :—</i>				
Want of cleanliness ... ..	12	12		
Want of ventilation ... ..	4	4		
Overcrowding ... ..	2	2		
Want of drainage to floors ..	—	—		
Other nuisances ... ..	15	15		
Sanitary accommodation—				
Insufficient ... ..	1	1		
Unsuitable or defective ...	2	2		
Not separate for sexes ...	—	—		
<i>Offences under the Factory and Workshop Acts :—</i>			Nil.	Nil.
Illegal occupation of under-ground bakehouses (s. 101) ...	—	—		
Breach of special sanitary requirements for bakehouses (ss. 97 to 100) ... ..	1	1		
Other offences ... .. (Excluding offences relating to outwork which are included in Part 3 of this Report)	—	—		
Total ... ..	37	37	—	—

### 3.—HOME WORK.

Nature of Work.	Outworkers' Lists, Section 107.					
	Lists received from Employers.					
	Sending twice in the year.			Sending once in the year.		
	Lists.	Outworkers.		Lists.	Outworkers.	
		Con-tractors.	Work-men.		Con-tractors.	Work-men.
Wearing Apparel—						
Making, &c. ... ..	8	2	18	—	—	—
Cleaning and washing	—	—	—	—	—	—
Household linen...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Lace, lace curtains and						
nets ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Curtains and furniture						
hangings ... ..	—	—	—	1	—	1
Furniture and upholstery	—	—	—	—	—	—
Electro-plate ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
File making ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brass and brass articles	—	—	—	—	—	—
Fur pulling ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cables and chains ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Anchors and grapnels ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cart gear ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Locks, latches and keys	—	—	—	—	—	—
Umbrellas, &c. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Artificial flowers ...	—	—	—	—	—	—
Nets, other than wire						
nets ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Tents ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Sacks ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Racquet and tennis balls	—	—	—	—	—	—
Paper, &c., boxes, paper						
bags ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Brush making ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Pea picking ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Feather sorting ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Carding, &c., of buttons,						
&c. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Stuffed toys ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Basket making ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Chocolates and sweet-						
meats ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Cosaques, Christmas crac-						
kers, Christmas stock-						
ings, &c. ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Textile weaving ... ..	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total .. ..	8	2	18	1	—	1

## 4.—REGISTERED SHOPS.

Workshops on the Register (s. 131) at the end of the year.	Number.
Bakehouses ... ..	19
Dressmakers ... ..	31
Laundries ... ..	21
Milliners .. ...	15
Motor Works ... ..	6
Tailors ... ..	7
Other ... ..	33
Total number of Workshops on Register	132

## 5.—OTHER MATTERS.

Class.	Number.
Matters notified to H.M. Inspector of Factories :—	
Failure to affix Abstract of the Factory and Workshop Acts (s. 133, 1901) ... ..	3
Action taken in matters referred by H.M. Inspector as remediable under the Public Health Acts, but not under the Factory and Workshops Acts (s. 5, 1901) :—	
Notified by H.M. Inspector ... ..	5
Reports (of action taken) sent to H.M. Inspector ...	5
Other ... ..	—
Underground Bakehouses (s. 101) :—	
Certificates granted during the year ... ..	—
In use at the end of the year ... ..	3

## COUNTY COUNCIL TABLE No. 1.

*Inspections.	Number of Premises Inspected on Complaint.	(1) 204
	Number of Premises Inspected in connection with Infectious Diseases	(2) 191
	Number of Premises under periodical Inspection.	(3) 287
	Houses inspected from House-to-House (H. and T.P. Act).	(4) 155
	Total number of Inspections and re-inspections made.	(5) 5860

COUNTY COUNCIL TABLE No. 1—continued.

Action taken. (Other than under H. and T.P. Act).	Cautionary or Intimation Notices given	287
	Statutory Orders Issued.	—
	Summonses Served.	—
	Convictions Obtained.	—
Dwelling Houses and Action under H. and T.P. Act, 1909.	Number of Houses dealt with under Sect. 15.	—
	Number of Houses found to be in a state dangerous or injurious to Health (Sect. 17).	22
	Number of Representations made by M.O.H. (Sect. 17).	22
	Number of Houses made Habit- able without Closing Orders.	—
	Number of Closing Orders made by L.A. (Sect. 17).	9
	Number of Houses closed Voluntarily.	—
	Number of Closing Orders deter- mined after Repairs (Sct. 17).	—
	Number of Houses Demolished (a) by order of L.A. (Sect. 17), (b) Voluntarily.	—
	Illegal Underground Rooms Vacated.	—
Houses let in Lodgings (Tenement Houses).	Number Registered under Bye-laws.	—
	Number of Contraventions.	—
Common Lodging Houses.	Number Registered under Bye-laws.	—
	Number of Inspections made.	—
	Number of Contraventions.	—



COUNTY COUNCIL TABLE No. 2.

Bakehouses.	Number in District.	19
	Contraventions of Factory Acts.	1
Slaughter-houses.	Number on Register.	11
	Number of Inspections made.	343
	Frequency of inspection.	twice weekly
	Contraventions of Bye-laws.	5
Cow-sheds.	Number on Register.	7
	Number of Inspections made.	68
	Frequency of inspection.	monthly
	Contraventions of Regulations.	4
	Number of Milch Cows in District.	142
Dairies and Milkshops.	Number on Register.	56
	Number of Inspections made.	230
	Frequency of Inspection.	weekly
	Contraventions of Regulations.	10
Unsound Food.	Meat (including organs) seized and surrendered. (Approximate weight in pounds).	1142
	Poultry and Game seized and surrendered. (Approximate weight in pounds).	9
	Fish seized and surrendered. (Approximate weight in pounds).	467
	Fruit and Vegetables seized and surrendered. (Approximate weight in pounds).	28

## COUNTY COUNCIL TABLE No. 2—continued.

Unsound Food continued.	Other Articles seized and surrendered. (Approximate weight in pounds).		—
	Method of disposal.		Refuse Destructor.
Offensive Trades.	Number of premises in District.		5
	Number of Inspections made.		192
	Contraventions of Bye-laws.		4
Water Supply and Water Service.	Wells.	New, Sunk.	—
		Cleansed, Repaired, &c.	—
		Closed as Polluted.	1
	Percentage of Houses supplied from Public Water Service.		99·8
	Cisterns.	New, Provided.	—
		Cleansed, Repaired, Covered, &c.	74
	Draw-Taps placed on Mains.		—
	Percentage of Houses supplied on Constant System.		100
	Number of Samples obtained for analysis.	From Local Wells.	1
		From Public Supply.	—

COUNTY COUNCIL TABLE No. 3.

Drainage and Sewerage of existing Buildings.	Water Closets	Number of Water Closets substituted for Dry Receptacles.	—
		Repaired, Supplied with Water, or otherwise Improved.	132
	Percentage of Houses provided with Water Closets.		99.9
	Drains.	Examined, Tested, Exposed, &c.	78
		Unstopped, Repaired, Trapped, &c.	41
		Waste Pipes, Rain Water Pipes, Disconnected, Repaired, &c.	127
		New Soil Pipes or Ventilating Shafts fixed.	27
		Existing Soil Pipes or Ventilating Shafts repaired.	1
		Disconnecting Traps or Chambers inserted.	57
		Reconstructed.	176
	Cesspools.	Rendered Impervious. Emptied, Cleansed, &c.	1
		Abolished, and Drain connected to Sewer.	—
	Percentage of Houses Draining into Sewers.		99.8
Disinfection.	Rooms Disinfected.	Ordinary infectious diseases.	166
		Phthisis.	18
	Rooms Stripped and Cleansed.		14
	Articles Disinfected or Destroyed.	Ordinary infectious diseases.	1547
		Phthisis.	59



COUNTY COUNCIL TABLE No. 3—continued.

Dust.	New bins provided.		75
	How frequently is dust removed from each house.		weekly
	Number of complaints of non-removal received.		4
	Method of Disposal.	Destructor.	High temperature Destructor.
		By Tipping.	Very small portion.
Sundry Nuisances Abated.	Overcrowding.		8
	Smoke.		1
	Accumulations of refuse.		6
	Foul ditches, ponds, &c., and stagnant water.		3
	Foul pigs and other animals.		16
	Dampness.		144
	Yards repaved or repaired.		139
	Other nuisances		237
Canal Boats used as Dwellings.	Number Registered under the Acts.		Nil
	Number of Contraventions of Regulations.		Nil
Moveable Dwellings, Caravans, Tents, &c.	Number Observed during the Year.		36
	Number of Nuisances therefrom Abated.		—
	Number Removed from District.		36

# LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE 1.

VITAL STATISTICS OF WHOLE DISTRICT DURING 1913 AND PREVIOUS YEARS.

YEAR.	BIRTHS.			TOTAL DEATHS REGISTERED IN THE DISTRICT.		TRANSFERABLE DEATHS.		NETT DEATHS BELONGING TO THE DISTRICT.		
	Uuorrected Number.		Nett.	Number	Rate.	of Non-residents registered in the District.	of Residents not registered in the District.	Under 1 Year of Age.		At all Ages.
								Number.	Rate per 1,000 Net Births.	
1908	751	...	...	289	10·8	8	50	70	93·2	331 12·7
1909	703	...	...	311	11·2	5	56	56	79·6	362 13·2
1910	696	...	...	251	8·8	2	50	62	89·08	299 10·4
1911	684	698	23·7	288	9·7	8	70	78	111·7	350 11·9
1912	693	713	23·3	238	7·8	8	81	49	68·7	311 10·1
1913	722	734	23·15	277	8·7	6	80	52	79·0	351 11·0

Area of District in acres (exclusive of area covered by water), 2415.

Total population at all ages, 29,367  
 Number of inhabited houses, 6803  
 Average number of persons per house, 4·3  
 At Census of 1911.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE 2.

CASES OF INFECTIOUS DISEASE NOTIFIED DURING THE YEAR 1913.

Notifiable Disease	Cases Notified in Whole District.							Total Cases Notified in each Locality.					Total Cases removed to Hospital.			
	At all Ages.	At Ages—Years.						South Ward.	East Ward.	West Ward.	Central Ward.	Whitton Ward.				
		Under 1.	1 to 5.	5 to 15.	15 to 25.	25 to 45.	45 to 65.							65 and upwards.		
Small-Pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cholera	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria (including Membranous croup)	52	14	33	2	1	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Erysipelas	6	...	1	...	3	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet fever	119	18	80	17	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Typhus fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Enteric fever	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Relapsing fever...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Continued fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerperal fever...	4	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Cerebro-spinal Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Poliomyelitis	2	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Pulmonary Tuberculosis	66	1	1	12	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other forms of Tuberculosis	31	5	15	3	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Totals	281	39	135	34	51	15	6	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...

Isolation Hospitals :—Twickenham Urban District Council's Isolation Hospital, Nelson Road, Whitton (for scarlet fever and diphtheria); Mereway Hospital (for small pox).  
Sanatoria, &c., Middlesex County Council, Clarehall Sanatorium and Winchmore Hill Hospital, Tuberculosis.



LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE 3.

CAUSES OF, AND AGES AT DEATH DURING THE YEAR 1913.

CAUSES OF DEATH.	Nett deaths at the Subjoined Ages of "Residents" whether occurring in or without the District.								Total deaths whether of "Residents" or "Non-Residents" in Institutions in the District.
	All Ages.	Under 1 year.	1 and under 2 years.	2 and under 5 years.	5 and under 15 years.	15 and under 25 years.	25 and under 45 years.	45 and under 65 years.	65 and upwards
All causes:—	350	57	12	13	11	9	44	88	116
Certified	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Uncertified	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Enteric Fever	1	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Small Pox	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Measles	3	..	2	..	1	..	..	..	..
Scarlet Fever	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Whooping cough	2	..	1	1	..	..	..	..	..
Diphtheria & Croup	3	1	..	1	1	..	..	..	2
Influenza	3	1	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
Erysipelas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Phthisis (Pulmonary Tuberculosis)	21	..	..	1	3	1	8	6	2
Tuberculous Meningitis	5	..	2	1	1	..	1	..	1
Other Tuberculous diseases	7	1	..	1	..	..	3	2	1
Cancer, Malignant Disease	38	..	1	..	..	2	4	16	..
Rheumatic Fever..	1	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Meningitis...	2	1	..	..	1	..	..	..	..
Organic heart disease..	34	..	..	..	..	..	7	13	..

LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE 3—continued.

Bronchitis ... ..	20	2	...	...	..	1	...	5	12	1
Pneumonia (all forms)	30	3	3	3	..	...	5	7	9	1
Other diseases of respiratory organs	2	1	...	...	..	...	..	...	1	...
Diarrhoea and Enteritis	13	12	1	...	...	..	..	..	...	...
Appendicitis and Typhilitis	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Cirrhosis of Liver...	3	..	...	...	...	..	2	1	...	...
Alcoholism...	1	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...
Nephritis and Bright's disease	8	..	...	1	1	...	...	3	3	...
Puerperal Fever ...	1	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	...
Other accidents and diseases of Pregnancy and Parturition ...	2	...	...	..	...	..	1	1	...	..
Congenital Debility and Malformation, including Premature Birth	21	21	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Violent Deaths, excluding Suicide	13	2	...	2	2	1	1	4	1	1
Suicide ... ..	3	..	...	...	...	..	2	1	...	...
Other Defined Diseases	103	10	1	2	...	4	8	25	53	5
Diseases ill-defined or unknown	10	3	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	...
	351	58	12	13	11	9	44	89	116	14

## LOCAL GOVERNMENT BOARD TABLE 4.

## INFANT MORTALITY.

Nett Deaths from stated causes at various Ages under 1 Year of Age.

CAUSE OF DEATH.			Under 1 Week.	1-2 Weeks.	2-3 Weeks.	3-4 Weeks.	Total under 1 Month.	1-3 Months.	3-6 Months.	6-9 Months.	9-12 Months.	Total Deaths under 1 Year.
All Causes.	Certified	Uncertified	10	3	5	1	20	10	11	7	10	58
			1	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Small-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Chicken-pox	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Measles	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Scarlet Fever	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Whooping Cough	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Diphtheria and Croup	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Erysipelas	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Tuberculous Meningitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Abdominal Tuberculosis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Other Tuberculous Diseases	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1
Meningitis (not Tuberculous)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	1
Convulsions	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	2	3
Laryngitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Bronchitis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	...	2	4
Pneumonia (all forms)	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	1	1	4
Diarrhoea	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	1	2	7
Enteritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	...	4
Gastritis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Syphilis	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rickets	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Suffocation, overlying	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Injury at Birth	...	...	1	...	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Atelectasis	...	...	...	1	...	...	1	...	...	...	...	1
Congenital Malformations	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	1	...	...	1
Premature Birth	...	...	6	1	2	1	10	1	...	...	...	11
Atrophy, Debility, Marasmus	...	...	3	1	2	...	6	3	1	2	1	13
Other Causes	...	...	...	...	1	...	1	1	1	1	...	4
Totals	...	...	11	3	5	1	20	10	11	7	10	58

Nett Births in the year, 734.  
 Nett Deaths in the year of Infants, 58,



## APPENDIX.

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Report of Inspector as to the administration of the Shops Acts.

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

RADNOR HOUSE,

TWICKENHAM,

*8th January, 1914.*

To the Chairman and Members of the  
Health, Allotments and Bathing Place Committee.

GENTLEMEN,

### SHOPS ACTS, 1912 and 1913.

I beg to present the following report on the administration of the Shops Acts 1912-13 in your district.

There are 568 shops of all kinds within the Urban District, made up as follows :—

Licenced houses...	..	...	...	...	...	52
Wine and spirit merchants and out-door licences	...					5
Cycle manufacturers and repairers	...	...	...			7
Pawnbrokers	...	..	...	...	...	2
Newsagents, sweets, minerals and tobacco	...	...				34
Tobacconists and confectioners	...	...	...			32
Stationers and booksellers and music dealers or toy shops						13
Groceries and provisions	...	...	...	...		47
Hairdressers	...	...	...	...	...	20
Fishmongers	...	...	...	...	...	12
Butchers	...	...	...	...	..	30
Greengrocers	...	...	...	...	...	27
Dairies	...	...	...	...	...	18

Boot retailers and repairers	...	..	...	...	40
General shops	...	...	...	...	79
Bakers and confectioners	...	...	...	...	24
Drapers, dress agencies, wardrobe dealers and milliners					42
Tailors and outfitters	...	..	...	...	15
China stores	...	...	...	...	3
Watchmakers and jewellers	...	...	...	...	11
Corn, coal and coke dealers	...	...	...	...	10
Furniture dealers	...	...	...	...	15
Photographers	...	...	...	...	2
Ironmongers and domestic machinery...			...	...	10
Basket makers and umbrella makers	...		...	...	2
Builders' sundries	...	...	...	...	7
Oil and colourmen	...	...	...	...	5
Sports requisites, picture frame makers			...	...	4
					<hr/> 568 <hr/>

The majority of the shops close for their half-holiday on Wednesday, but in the Whitton District Tuesday is the day generally chosen

The following table shows the number of shops closing on the various days in the week :—

Monday	...	...	64
Tuesday	...	...	42
Wednesday	...	...	361
Thursday	...	...	27
Friday ...	...	...	12
Saturday	...	...	10
			<hr/>
Total...	...	...	516
Licensed Houses	...		52
			<hr/> 568 <hr/>

It will be obvious that the work of properly administering the Act is exceedingly difficult and is made much more so by the fact that of the total number of shops 224 are compelled to close for only a portion of the commodities they sell and are allowed to keep their shops open for other goods. For instance, the newsagent and tobacconist may keep his shop open for papers and tobacco but must not sell note-paper, bottles of ink, &c. The milk-seller may sell milk but must not sell butter or eggs; the shop selling sweets and mineral waters may be kept open for the sale of sweets and minerals, the latter to be consumed in the shop, but bottles must not be sold to be carried away.

There are some streets also in the district where nearly every day of the week is used by the various shops for closing day, as for example.

<i>Road.</i>	<i>Closing day.</i>	<i>No. of Shops.</i>
Fourth Cross Road.	Monday ...	... 3
	Tuesday ...	... 1
	Wednesday	... 3
	Thursday ...	... 1
Colne Road.	Monday ...	.. 4
	Tuesday ...	... 2
	Wednesday	... 11
	Thursday ...	... 1
Nelson Road, Whitton.	Monday ...	... 2
	Tuesday ...	... 3
	Thursday ...	... 1
	Friday ...	... 1

and many others.

Pressure has been brought to bear to induce the shopkeepers to close on a regular day for all shops and some have agreed to fall in with our suggestions, but I am convinced that nothing short of a general order for the whole district would bring all the shops to close on the same day.

As a great deal of the work of inspection and administration can only be carried out during the evening, particularly with regard to those



shops which are allowed to be kept open for the sale of a portion of their goods, and as the work entailed is far in excess of anything anticipated I should be glad if the Committee and Council would consider the question of granting the Inspectors separate and additional salary for those duties.

I am, Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,  
WALTER G. F. KINGSTON,  
*Chief Inspector under the Acts.*

#### PETROLEUM ACTS.

There are twenty premises on the register licensed for the sale of petroleum spirit and four for the sale of carbide of calcium. Each of the licenses are renewable annually. They are kept under observation and inspected periodically.

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# Twickenham Urban District Council.

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PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,

RADNOR HOUSE,

TWICKENHAM,

*February 10th, 1914.*

## MEDICAL INSPECTION OF SCHOOL CHILDREN.

To the Chairman and Members of the Education Committee.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I have the honour to submit my report upon the work of Medical Inspection of children in the elementary schools during the year 1913.

The points which deserve special attention appear to be the following :—

- (1) The increasing number of children in attendance at the schools and consequent increase in the number examined during routine inspection.
- (2) The further increase in the number of children obtaining treatment, and the high percentage of treated cases, viz., 81·8 per cent.
- (3) The remarkable growth of the work of the inspection clinic at Radnor House.
- (4) The excellent results produced by X-ray treatment of Ringworm of the Scalp.

- (5) The adoption of a scheme for treatment of dental defects.
- (6) The necessity for thorough visitation, at their homes, of children, absent on account of non-notifiable infectious diseases.

### GENERAL.

There are eight schools in Twickenham, comprising seventeen departments, with accommodation for 3,926 scholars, and an average daily attendance of 3,725 in 1913, compared with 3,477 in 1912.

TABLE I.

Name of School.	Accommodation.	Average Attendance.
I. Trafalgar: Boys ...	380	340
Girls ...	380	361
Infants ...	390	352
	— 1150	— 1053
2. Orleans: Mixed ...	314	300
Infants ...	110	123
	— 424	— 423
3. Nelson: Infants ...	150	109
	— 150	— 109
4. St. Mary's: Boys ..	253	252
Girls ...	181	182
Infants...	192	187
	— 626	— 621
5. Archdeacon Cambridge: Boys ..	239	245
Girls...	245	241
Infants	264	263
	— 748	— 749
6. St. Stephen's: Boys	148	149
Girls	148	146
Infants	182	172
	— 478	— 467
7. Whitton: Mixed ...	229	188
	— 229	— 188
8. St. James' R.C.: Mixed	121	115
	— 121	— 115
Total in all Departments.	3926	3725

## HYGIENIC CONDITIONS OF THE SCHOOLS.

Some of the older schools are considerably below the average hygienic conditions to be found throughout the area. It will probably be more satisfactory if the conditions requiring attention are reported upon to the Committee from time to time, rather than that they should be mentioned generally in this report.

As, however, I have paid special attention to the subject of *dust prevention* in the schools during the year, a more detailed reference may be made.

The sweeping of classrooms must of necessity be a matter of some difficulty, as it must obviously be carried out after school hours, and frequently by artificial light, while the closely packed and heavy desks render it a still more difficult proceeding.

The methods employed in sweeping have hitherto been left to the discretion of the cleaners, and the practice, in consequence, varies somewhat in the different schools.

In one instance a sweeping powder is employed, but as a general rule sawdust is used to prevent dust rising, the sawdust being moistened either with water or, in some cases, with a dilute disinfectant fluid. It may be said at once that on all the occasions observed, the amount of sawdust used and the amount of moisture in the sawdust was utterly inadequate, and the sweepers swept in a perfect cloud of dust, which afterwards gradually settled in the course of the next few hours.

One objection to the use of sawdust, or any other similar substance, is that it is practically impossible to sweep it out from among closely placed desks. This is seen especially in the case of the new dual desks, which have a transverse wooden bar close to the floor which prevents the free use of a broom and provides a space under which the dirty sawdust collects. In consequence the cleaners do not use the sawdust among the desks, but only in the gangways and open spaces of the classrooms. The same objection applies to any of the dust laying powders which are being so vigorously pushed at the present time.



The only efficient method would be, of course, to move each desk daily, and this seems more than can be expected of the average school cleaner.

Sawdust, as above stated, is almost always used in too dry a condition, and, in consequence, the dust rises almost as much as without it. The reason assigned for the insufficient moistening is usually the fear of making the floors slightly damp, but if the moistening is regulated this would not be a valid objection.

After consideration I am of opinion that sawdust properly used is quite as efficient as the proprietary dust laying powders on the market, and, of course, much less expensive.

Careful trial has also been made of a dust laying oil, the preparation tried being known as "Dustolio." This is poured on the boards and brushed in with a mop. The only treatment subsequently required being a daily sweeping with a stiff broom ; subsequent washing of the floors being unnecessary.

It was used on the classroom floors at the Whitton School, and I had also the opportunity of observing an extensive trial at the Metropolitan and City Police Orphanage. There can be no question as to its satisfactory dust laying powers, it is impossible to raise dust by sweeping over it, and each application lasts about 3 or 4 months. But here, again, the difficulty of satisfactory daily sweeping between desks comes in. Unless this is done very thoroughly and with a special broom, a deposit of dust collects over the surface, forming a crust in places, especially near doors.

If thorough brushing everywhere can be carried out the result is excellent ; but on account of the difficulty of removing the desks daily, I cannot advise its use in the classrooms of the ordinary elementary schools, and for this reason its use at Whitton was not persevered with. On the other hand, at the Police Orphanage, where this difficulty does not arise, it has been used in all the classrooms, gymnasium, etc., with very satisfactory results.

In places where a "straight run" with the room can be obtained, it is excellent, and, as its employment does away with the necessity of

washing the floors in addition to its dust preventing capabilities, much labour is saved. I strongly recommend it for use in the assembly halls, especially at Trafalgar Schools, where the central hall is used for other than school purposes out of school hours. Dust would be efficiently laid and the labour of washing the extensive floors would be done away with.

## **CO-RELATION OF SCHOOL MEDICAL AND OTHER DEPARTMENTS.**

The number of children attending the schools is at present such that the duties of school inspection can be carried out personally by the Medical Officer of Health, and consequently the co-relation between the School Medical and Public Health services is complete.

### **Arrangements for Medical Inspection.**

The Inspection Cards are returned to the office after the examination, and the details are entered in a register which is subsequently returned to the schools, and there kept for reference if necessary. The cards are kept at the office.

Inspection Cards of children admitted from other districts have been written for in each case, and in some instances this important measure has enabled me to follow up advice previously given, and also has prevented the needless examination of children recently inspected in other schools, and in whom no abnormality was found.

The lists of children to be inspected are compiled with the assistance of the head teachers, who also send out the preliminary notices to the parents.

### **Assistance given to the School Medical Officer by Nurse, Teachers and Attendance Officers.**

The School Nurse has invariably been present at the inspections and has undertaken the dressing and undressing of the children, the taking of heights and weights, and the preliminary testing of vision with the types.

With one exception it has been necessary to use one of the classrooms for medical inspection, and, in consequence, two or more classes

have been crowded together in another room. The School Medical Officer desires to acknowledge the readiness with which this has been done and the willing assistance rendered by the head teachers, but the necessity for providing separate accommodation for medical inspection in the new schools is none the less obvious,

### Medical Aspects of School Attendance.

The question of the medical aspects of school attendance is one which demands somewhat closer attention. The Committee probably do not recognise how much of the work in connection with school attendance is really medical.

A child is usually absent from school for the following reasons :—  
 (1) Ill-health. (2) Exclusion on account of suspected infectious disease ; infectious disease among other inmates of the house, or vermin.  
 (3) Detention by the parents for domestic reasons or wilful non-attendance on the part of the child.

Nearly 70 per cent. of the cases seen at Radnor House are seen on account of absence from school from ill-health, and, when it is noted that there were 2385 consultations last year, the extent to which the school medical department is connected with school attendance work will be better understood.

When a child, who is not fit to attend school, is seen by me, in order to facilitate the work of the attendance officers, a certificate is sent to them in each case and a copy is also sent to the head teachers of the school attended ; certificates of fitness to attend being also sent when necessary.

The Committee will agree that this is a very necessary procedure, but, of course, much extra writing is necessitated. No complete record has been kept for the whole year, but during the last quarter only certificates have been issued in reference to 427 children. Apart from the increased efficiency thus secured it will be seen that a very marked financial saving has been effected, as I am informed no fees for certificates have been paid by the Education Committee to any medical practitioners during the last two years.



## Absence in connection with Infectious Disease or suspected Infectious Disease.

It is in connection with those cases of infectious disease that are not compulsorily notifiable by parents or doctors that home visiting by the nurse is especially required. Only an insignificant number can be visited with the present staff, and the custom has been to send many of these cases to Radnor House, either in the doubtful early stage for diagnosis, or in the convalescent stage as to fitness for school attendance, while many obviously do not come to the knowledge of the School Medical Officer at all. It has been long felt by me that it is highly undesirable to mix—while waiting at Radnor House—cases of whooping cough, measles or other infectious disease or suspected infectious disease, with children suffering from other complaints, and the undesirability and danger of this was specially emphasised by the medical inspector of the Board of Education at his recent visit.

It frequently happens, also, that as a result of the visit of the School Attendance Officer at the home, a child is brought to the clinic when suffering from a high temperature and who is unfit to be walking about. Such cases should be visited by someone who could take a temperature and who could correct, if necessary, the parents diagnosis, for it must be remembered that the large majority of these cases never see a doctor, and the diagnosis given to the attendance officers or teachers is often incorrect.

If these cases are to be visited at their homes this obviously cannot be done with the present staff. The person visiting must have some medical training, as in many such cases the parents are in a great difficulty in deciding as to whether medical advice is necessary, and a nurse could be employed practically all her time most usefully on such work.

The necessity for this is a matter which demands the serious consideration of the Authority for reasons both of school attendance and the preservation of the public health.



The ideal at which to aim is that the School Medical Officer should be aware of every child who is absent on medical grounds, and the present system permits this only in a slight degree.

The objects to be desired are therefore twofold, firstly the more systematic notification to the School Medical Officer of children absent on medical grounds, and secondly proper visiting and revisiting at the homes of cases that are unsuitable or unwilling to attend at Radnor House.

A further point to be taken into consideration is the fact that the attendances at Radnor House have been so numerous that any appreciable increase cannot be dealt with there by me.

## EXTENT AND SCOPE OF THE INSPECTION.

Following the methods of previous years, the children continued to be examined at three periods (*a*) on entrance as infants, (*b*) on promotion to the senior schools, and (*c*) after reaching the age of 12.

It was realised that, under this arrangement, the second inspection frequently followed the first at too early a date, and too long an interval, in consequence, elapsed between the second and third inspections. It was arranged towards the end of the year to place the second inspection at 8 years. This will conform with the age at which the Board of Education intend to place the intermediate inspections when these become compulsory. As, therefore, routine medical inspection is already being carried out in Twickenham at entrance, at 8 years and at 12 years, no alteration will have to be made to meet the further requirements of the Board next year.

The Schedule of Medical Inspection has been closely followed in every case.

The total number of children inspected during the year was 1863 (as compared with 1787 in 1912, and 1565 in 1911). These were distributed amongst the various schools as follows :—

TABLE II.

Name of School.	Primary inspections.	Secondary inspections.	Final inspections.	Total examined.
Arch. Cam. infants ...	114	—	—	114
„ girls ...	13	39	20	72
„ boys ...	17	53	29	99
Trafalgar infants ..	134	—	—	134
„ girls ...	76	94	124	294
„ boys ...	64	89	102	255
St. Stephen's infants	133	—	—	133
„ girls ...	35	26	44	105
„ boys ..	14	24	20	58
Nelson infants ..	45	—	—	45
Whitton mixed ..	35	40	22	97
Orleans infants ...	59	—	—	59
„ mixed ...	41	20	22	83
St. Mary's infants ..	119	—	—	119
„ girls ..	10	18	34	62
„ boys ..	13	43	32	88
St. James' R.C. ..	24	13	9	46
Total ... ..	946	459	458	1863

In addition 257 children have been seen incidentally at the schools, or have been sent to Radnor House on other than clinic days.

TABLE III.

*Classification by Age and Sex.*

Age.	Girls.	Boys.
5—6	162	225
6—7	80	82
7—8	60	44
8—9	145	168
9—10	102	91
10—11	36	33
11—12	40	38
12—13	179	130
13—14	127	99
14—15	4	3

CONDITIONS FOUND ON INSPECTION.

Weights.

All weights were taken without boots.

TABLE IV.  
*Average Weight.*

Ages in years.					5		6		7		8		9	
					st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.
Boys	...	...	...	...	2	10 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	6 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$
Girls	...	...	...	...	2	9 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	0 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	3	3	9	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$

*Average Weight—continued.*

Ages in years.					10		11		12		13		14	
					st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.	st.	lbs.
Boys	...	...	...	...	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	6	5	2	5	4 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	4
Girls	...	...	...	...	4	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	12 $\frac{3}{4}$	5	2 $\frac{1}{4}$	5	9 $\frac{3}{4}$	6	4

Heights.

All heights were taken without boots.

TABLE V.  
*Average Height.*

Ages in years.					5		6		7		8		9	
					ft.	in.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.
Boys	...	...	...	...	3	5 $\frac{1}{2}$	3	7 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	10	3	11 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	1 $\frac{3}{4}$
Girls	...	...	...	...	3	5 $\frac{3}{4}$	3	8 $\frac{1}{4}$	3	9	3	10 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	0 $\frac{3}{4}$

*Average Height—continued.*

Ages in years.					10		11		12		13		14	
					ft.	in.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.	ft.	in.
Boys	...	...	...	...	4	3 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	4 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	7 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	8 $\frac{1}{2}$
Girls	...	...	...	...	4	3 $\frac{3}{4}$	4	6	4	7 $\frac{1}{4}$	4	9 $\frac{1}{2}$	4	11 $\frac{1}{4}$

TABLE VI.

*Numerical Statement of Conditions found on Inspection.*

Numbers inspected.		Entrants.	Inter- mediates.	Leavers.	Total.	Per cent.
		946	459	452	1863	
CONDITIONS.						
<b>Clothing</b>	Satisfactory	922	441	446	1815	—
	Unsatisfactory	24	18	6	48	2·05
<b>Footgear</b>	Satisfactory	913	439	437	1795	—
	Unsatisfactory	33	20	15	68	3·65
<b>Cleanliness</b>	Head (Verminous)	37	27	30	94	5·05
	Body (Verminous)	7	3	2	12	0·64
<b>Nose and Throat</b>	No defect	771	382	394	1547	83·2
	Tonsils (slight)	105	46	42	193	10·3
	„ (much enlarged)	30	11	11	52	2·7
	Adenoids (slight)	13	11	9	33	1·7
	„ (marked)	27	9	2	38	2·08
<b>External Eye Disease</b>	Blepharitis	5	—	—	5	0·26
	Conjunctivitis	2	—	3	5	0·26
<b>Ear Disease</b>	Otorrhœa	16	3	5	24	1·2
	Deafness (other)	17	1	4	22	1·17
<b>Teeth</b>	Sound	—	—	—	435	28·0
	Decayed	—	—	—	1428	72·0
	Temporary (less than 4)	—	—	—	638	34·2
	Temporary (more than 4)	—	—	—	415	22·2
	Permanent (less than 4)	—	—	—	400	21·4
	Permanent (more than 4)	—	—	—	65	3·4
<b>Heart and Circulation</b>	No disease	910	436	432	1778	96·7
	Organic disease	6	6	10	22	1·1
	Functional „	30	17	16	63	3·2



Numbers inspected.		Entrants.	Inter- mediates.	Leavers.	Total.	Per cent.
		946	459	452	1863	
<b>Lungs</b>	Bronchitis or Bronchial Catarrh	35	13	5	53	2·8
	Tuberculosis	—	9	2	2	0·1
	„ suspected	4	3	5	12	0·6
<b>Nervous system</b>	Epilepsy	4	1	—	5	
	Chorea	—	—	4	4	
	Polio-myelitis	3	—	1	4	
	Other diseases	4	—	—	4	
<b>Skin</b>	Ringworm of Head	2	—	—	2	
	Impetigo	12	4	2	18	
	Other diseases	3	1	3	7	
<b>Deformities</b>	Deformity present	4	—	3	7	
<b>Tuberculosis Non-Pul- monary</b>	Glandular	1	—	2	3	0·16
	Bones and Joints	1	—	—	1	
<b>Mental condition</b>	Mentally defective	2	1	1	4	
<b>Vision</b>	No. examined				1246	
	No defect	45	49	70	164	13·1
<b>Squint</b>		17	—	1	18	1·4
<b>Absence of Vaccination</b>		154	49	46	249	13·3
<b>Parents present</b>		885	306	377	1538	87·7

NOTE.—Reference to the methods adopted to follow up and obtain treatment will be given under the respective headings.

## Clothing and Foot Covering.

The percentage of those noted as imperfectly clothed or with very defective boots was 7·3. This, it may again be remarked, is not a true indication of the usual state of the clothing, as a certain amount of "smartening up" is usually undertaken before the children are presented for medical inspection.

Through a charitable fund a considerable number of boots have been supplied to children whose parents appeared to the Sub-Committee to be unable to afford to buy the necessary footgear. In addition, more shoes have been provided at some of the schools for children who arrive with wet feet. Dry shoes are thus worn during school hours, and, as far as the limited supply has gone, good use has been made of this advantage, and it has been much appreciated. It will be matter for much regret if this has to be discontinued.

## Verminous Children.

It may be noted that the number of children found at routine inspection to be verminous, in either head or body, has remained at 5 per cent. during the past two years. This figure, as stated last year, appears to be something near to the "irreducible minimum."

It would, however, be taking too rosy a view of things to assume that this is the percentage of verminous children in the schools generally. The nurse has paid frequent visits to all the schools in turn and examined classes for the purpose of detecting vermin. At these visits, three hundred and nine cards of directions for cleansing were given: ninety-four children were subsequently formally excluded by me, and during the year the parents of eleven children were prosecuted and conviction obtained in each case.

## Defective Nutrition.

The percentage entered as anæmic or underfed was 4·2, but the personal factor in the examination must always cause a certain amount of variation in these figures in different places. Many of the children who appeared very thin and half-starved were known to be well fed, or, at any rate, as well cared for as many children looking robust and

well, and yet no organic reason could be assigned for the difference. Heredity is a more important factor than perhaps we are inclined to think, but, when all is said and done, we must confess ourselves unable to state definitely and certainly from a child's appearance whether that child is underfed.

The Provision of Meals Act has not been adopted, but, through voluntary agencies, free meals were provided in several schools. The total expenditure last winter was £27, when 6,120 meals were provided, at an average cost of 1·064d. each.

### **Carious Teeth.**

Of the 1,853 children examined, fourteen hundred and twenty-eight had carious teeth, either temporary, permanent or both, being 72 per cent. and consequently 28 per cent. had sound mouths.

Advice was given respecting the treatment of teeth in every case where the permanent teeth were affected, and treatment has been carried out in an increasing number of cases, compared with previous years. By treatment it may be understood that extraction is meant. Conservative dentistry was certainly limited to the very select few.

In August I reported to the Committee upon this most important matter of treatment of dental cases (vide appendix), and the suggestions contained in that report were adopted by the Committee and by the Council as a basis of a scheme for providing dental treatment.

It may possibly be necessary to modify some of the details—for example, as to the age selection—as time goes on; meanwhile the sanction of the Board of Education is awaited.

### **Diseases of the Nose and Throat.**

Two hundred and forty-five children had some enlargement of the tonsils, but in only fifty-two (or 2·7 per cent. of the children examined) was the enlargement sufficiently marked and the other signs such as to call for treatment.

Adenoids were noted in seventy-one children, and in thirty-eight of these (or 2·08 per cent. of the children examined) treatment was considered necessary.



The arrangements made with St. John's Hospital, and sanctioned by the Board of Education, under which thirty-five cases of tonsils or adenoids can be operated upon during any one year, has been continued, and by this means fourteen cases of enlarged tonsils and nineteen of adenoids were operated upon. In addition, however, sixty-five tonsils and forty-nine adenoids were operated upon either at Hospitals or otherwise, making a total of seventy-nine cases of tonsils and sixty-eight of adenoids operated upon during the year.

### Eye Diseases and Defective Vision.

The number of children found during routine inspection to be suffering from inflamed eyes or lids was comparatively small. Such conditions, except in the slighter degrees, are easily recognised by the teachers, and were sent to me at Radnor House. Whenever necessary they have been excluded from school.

One hundred and sixty-four children were found to have defective vision, being 13 per cent. of the total examined during routine inspection, 105 being new cases. Fifty-four cases were examined by Mr. Blair, F.R.C.S., the Committee's Consulting Ophthalmic Surgeon, under the arrangement sanctioned by the Board of Education, and an equal number received treatment either at Hospitals or privately. In all, therefore, 108 children received treatment for defective vision.

In addition to following up for the purpose of seeing that treatment had been obtained in these cases, special attention has been paid to see that those children for whom glasses had been previously supplied were continuing to use these glasses when in school. For this purpose every department was visited, and, as anticipated, a considerable number of these children were found to be without glasses. The most frequent reason was that the spectacles had been broken, the explanation next in frequency was that, in the opinion of the parent, the glasses "did not suit." The majority of the parents apparently believe that, if only the proper glasses were ordered, all defects of vision, from whatever cause, will forthwith disappear, and that if the improvement is not immediate and complete, the glasses must be wrong. Obviously we have a long way to travel yet before the public are fully educated in these matters,



Re-examination by the Ophthalmic Surgeon of cases at a stated period, say twelve months after the glasses are first obtained, has not hitherto been carried out systematically. In many cases this is most essential, and endeavours will be made, as far as possible, to effect this during the coming year.

### Otorrhœa and Deafness.

Twenty-four children were found to be suffering from discharging ears during the routine inspection. In each case instructions were given and a considerable number were treated regularly by the nurse at Radnor House.

A chronic ear discharge, although looked upon by most parents as a trivial complaint, and treated by them in a perfunctory way, is, in reality, a very serious disease, and, although the treatment by syringing where possible has been most carefully carried out by the nurse, we must confess that this must often prove inadequate to affect a cure, although considerable improvement frequently resulted. I have carefully examined many of the cases at Radnor House, and in one case the radical mastoid operation was performed at a Hospital with complete success.

### Diseases of the Heart.

In eighty-five cases heart murmurs were recognised. It was obvious that most were of a functional character, but as far as possible every case was re-examined at Radnor House at a later date. In twenty-two of the cases, the defect appeared permanent, and the other signs led one to believe that the trouble was of an organic character.

Slight irregularity of action was not specially noted, the condition being so common in childhood and being compatible with perfect health.

I am more and more convinced of the importance of dealing with unhealthy tonsils as a measure to prevent heart disease. The theory of infection through the tonsils, by the rheumatic poison, is so frequently supported by evidence derived from experience as to amount to a certainty in my mind, and impresses upon me the value of

enucleation of the tonsils in children who suffer from recurrent tonsillitis and especially in children with a rheumatic tendency when the tonsils are enlarged, or even where the enlargement is not great.

### Diseases of the Lungs.

Bronchial Catarrh (2·8 per cent. of the children examined) was not found with unusual frequency.

Two new cases of definite pulmonary tuberculosis were discovered during routine inspection. One was a very marked and active case in a girl whose daily duty it was, in addition to school attendance, to take two children to a crèche in Hounslow in the morning and bring them back in the evening. The condition apparently had not even been suspected by the parent, at any rate, I hope not. The child was sent to the Infirmary the day after I saw her and died there shortly afterwards. In addition to these new cases, the cases previously discovered have been kept under regular observation, even though not in school.

In addition to the definite cases there were (as usual) a considerable number of cases in which tubercle was suspected. All these were re-examined at intervals and several of these were able to be sent away to Convalescent Homes.

The measures for dealing with pulmonary tuberculosis among the school children are, however, very disappointing. Since July, 1912, the treatment of tuberculosis has been handed over to the County Council. Eighteen months have now elapsed and the only persons dealt with by the County have been insured persons. The larger class of uninsured persons, which includes school children, has been practically untouched by them, although details of every case notified, whether insured or not, have been sent weekly according to the regulations.

Other children, from households, from which tubercular cases were notified, have been examined on many occasions. These examinations were all made at Radnor House and weights taken and advice given were necessary.

## Infectious Diseases in Schools.

The system of notification of infectious disease by the Head Teachers has been continued throughout the year, and gives a more complete idea of the incidence of infection. It is probable, however, that, from various causes, the returns are incomplete. The teacher has, as a rule, to rely on the diagnosis made by the parent, and this, especially in the case of mumps, is almost invariably incorrect. Mumps is really a specific, acute, infectious disease, but the term is used by parents to include any swelling in the neighbourhood of the neck.

Some cases of diphtheria occurred during the first quarter of the year, and affected St. Mary's School, all departments. The throats of all the children in various classes were examined on sixty-one occasions, averaging fifty to sixty throats on each occasion. Swabs were taken from twenty children having suspicious throats either in the schools or among those sent to Radnor House. Nine of these proved to be positive.

During the month of July there was a considerable number of cases of Whooping Cough, especially affecting the Archdeacon Cambridge Infants' School. The school was visited and several children sent home, in addition to those already excluded by the teacher. In consequence of this outbreak of Whooping Cough, I sent, after the summer holidays, a circular letter to the head teachers of all the infants' departments, asking them to exercise special care not to admit children who had been affected during the holidays and who had not yet completely recovered.

In addition, during the third quarter, twenty-six children, who had recently been suffering from whooping cough, were seen by me at Radnor House, to satisfy myself as to their fitness to attend school.

In cases of the non-notifiable, as well as the notifiable infectious diseases, the exclusion of contacts has been regularly carried out in accordance with the Memorandum of 1909.

## Ringworm of the Scalp.

No new case of ringworm of the scalp was discovered during ordinary routine inspection, practically all being found during special



inspections made for vermin or infectious disease, and a few were sent to Radnor House by the teachers. These cases were all dealt with at the clinic.

From the year 1912 twenty-one cases were carried over as uncured, and forty-one new cases were discovered during the year, making a total of sixty-two cases. Of these, fifty-four were cured, two have left the district, and only six remained under treatment on December 31st. These were all the cases of ringworm known to exist in the schools.

Twenty-seven of the new cases were treated by X-Rays at the expense of the Committee; the treatment being carried out by Mr. G. G. Blake, of Richmond, under my personal supervision. I have long since recognised the value of X-Rays in treating this disease, and, as anticipated, I am able to report most favourable results after a year's working in the schools here.

It will be remembered that the average period elapsing between the commencement of drug treatment and complete cure was at least six months. Under X-Ray treatment the average has been *thirty-four days*. Not only was epilation complete by this time, but all evidence of the disease had disappeared, and, in no case treated at the expense of the Committee, has the hair failed to return. This result will, we are sure, be very gratifying to the Committee, and the gain in the school attendance, calculated on the previous average attendance, was 132 months, or more than ten years for the twenty-seven children so treated.

Hairs from fourteen cases of doubtful ringworm were examined microscopically, thirteen proved to be positive and one negative.

### **Mental Condition.**

Four children among those examined at routine inspection were considered mentally defective in varying degrees.

It is difficult to see what is the best course to pursue in reference to such cases. The total number in all the schools would not justify a separate class, although, if the markedly dull children were included, it would be possible to form one class. As things are, they receive no benefit from ordinary tuition and act as a drag on the other members of the school.



## Parents Present at Inspection.

Every effort has been made to encourage parents to attend at routine inspection, and the high percentage present (87·7 per cent.) was a very gratifying feature of the work.

## FOLLOWING UP AND TREATMENT.

Reference to the treatment of the different defects found on routine inspection has been given under the appropriate headings, but a general outline may here be given.

When a case was recommended for treatment a letter was given or sent to the parents, drawing their attention to the condition and recommending application to a private medical practitioner or to a Hospital. At the same time, the case was entered on a "Following up card," and put down to be seen at a later date.

When the time had elapsed, these cases were requested to attend at Radnor House or seen at the schools. If treatment was not obtained by that time, the nurse visited the home and interviewed the parents. If necessary the School Medical Officer wrote to the parents and, in a few cases, it was considered necessary to report the matter to the Committee. By these means a very considerable proportion of the cases have received treatment, and it is to be definitely understood that the cases entered as having obtained treatment have received *complete* treatment. Mere attendance at a Hospital or seeing a doctor privately once or twice has not been entered at all.

Apart from cases obviously requiring treatment, many cases arose where a subsequent examination was required, under better conditions than those obtaining in a school room. These were seen at Radnor House, and included the following :—

### *Cases Referred for Subsequent Examination.*

Lungs ...	...	...	..	...	...	19	-----
Heart defects ...	...	...	...	...	...	24	
Tonsils and Adenoids			..	...	...	50	
Otorrhœa ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	
Defective vision	...	...	...	...	...	8	

Squint ...	...	...	...	...	...	24
Other cases	...	...	...	...	...	13

making in all 135 cases.

These are included in the total number of cases seen at Radnor House referred to later.

## STATEMENT OF RESULTS OF FOLLOWING UP.

TABLE VII.

*Cases obtaining Treatment.*

	Treated at Hospitals or privately.	Treated at expense of Committee.
Tonsils and Adenoids ..	114	33
Vision ... ..	53	55
Hernia ... ..	11	—
Other cases ... ..	49	—
	227	88
	315	

TABLE VIII.

*Summary of cases receiving treatment during the Year.*

	Recomended for treatment.	Treated.	Left or given up.	Carried over.
From previous year.	67	32	37	—
New cases ...	381	283	33	63
Total ...	448	315	70	63

It will be seen, therefore, that 81·8 per cent. of those recommended have received completed treatment.

Recommendations in reference to carious teeth are not included in the above table, as they were given verbally in most instances.

This table includes all cases receiving medical or surgical treatment, but does not include cases treated by the school nurse.

## INSPECTION CLINIC AND TREATMENT BY SCHOOL NURSE.

The bi-weekly attendance at Radnor House has been continued and as in the past year the cases seen there have been :—

- (1) Those referred from routine for special examination.
- (2) Cases recommended for treatment.
- (3) Cases sent by the head teachers, when in doubt as to a child's fitness to be in class.
- (4) Cases referred by the Attendance Committee or Attendance Officers, for examination as to ability to attend school.
- (5) Cases requiring treatment by the school nurse.

If the increasing use of the Clinic is to be taken as evidence of its utility, the figures of attendance speak with no uncertain voice.

			1911.	1912.	1913.
No. of cases seen	...	...	425	704	1340
No. of consultations	...	...	—	1618	2385

The figures for the Clinic at Radnor House this year, represent what is practically the maximum number that can be seen in the time that the School Medical Officer can devote to this branch of the duties. With an increasing school population the demands on the Clinic made by the head teachers and school attendance officers will probably increase still further. If this proves to be the case, some arrangement will have to be made for the school nurse to see cases coming for treatment by her for minor ailments on some other day, but unless some of the other duties are left, or assistance provided, it is not easy to see when this can be arranged. Still, the work at Radnor



House is, in my opinion, so useful that I would be very unwilling to see it curtailed, and every effort will be made to cope with it.

In addition to the certificates furnished to the attendance officers and teachers, all children sent to Truant Schools were examined when necessary and certificates given.

One teacher was examined at the request of the Sub-Committee.

Thirty-three children have been examined for admission to convalescent homes and the necessary certificates signed, five being sent to the seaside for one week by the Middlesex Memorial Fund to the late King Edward VII. The remainder, almost without exception, were sent, through the kindness of Mrs. Bates, the local Honorary Secretary for the Ministering Children's League.

The Ministering League sent these cases to a Convalescent Home at Brighton and keeps them there for three weeks at least. Not only have they been maintained without any charge, but even the railway fares have been paid from London. My requests for letters of admission have been numerous and have been invariably acceded to, and I desire to express my sincere appreciation of these many acts of kindness.

The staff at St. John's Hospital have always shown the utmost readiness to deal with the numerous cases not included in the recognised arrangement, and I have also on many occasions drawn on the services of my friends on the Medical and Surgical Staffs of the Richmond Hospital and of many of the London Hospitals. This has enabled me to secure treatment in a large number of the cases previously mentioned, and I take this opportunity to tender to them my thanks for all their trouble.

I am Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

*George H. Dupont.*

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*School Medical Officer.*



## APPENDIX.

# Report of the School Medical Officer on the question of Dental Treatment of children attending the elementary schools.

SIR, LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

In the present state of knowledge it is superfluous for me to dilate upon the necessity for the care and treatment of the teeth. The value of this is, I know, fully recognised by the Committee. Although the necessity for dental treatment is impressed in hundreds of cases during the year it is only by the more intelligent and better off parents that treatment of this character is obtained for their children. The great bulk of the cases which need it most are those which, on account of poverty or ignorance, or both, of the parents, fail to obtain the necessary treatment.

The expense in most cases is prohibitive, and nearer than London I am not aware of any Institution where treatment, other than that of mere extraction, can be obtained, even if it were possible to obtain subscribers' letters in any appreciable number of cases, and this cannot be done.

The following report, therefore, assumes that the general principle of establishing a school dental clinic is accepted.

As about 80 per cent. of the children examined during medical inspection in Twickenham are found to have decayed teeth (and this closely corresponds with the figures elsewhere), it follows that, if all were treated, more than 3,000 children would need attention annually. The most desirable aim being to prevent decay as far as possible or to stay its progress at the earliest moment; it has been found that the best age at which to concentrate attention is shortly after the eruption of the first of the permanent teeth, which come through the gum at about the sixth birthday.

I examine the teeth of every child during the routine inspection and by the methods of observation then available. Practically none of

the children under seven years of age are found to have any disease of the first permanent teeth, although by this time the temporary teeth are extensively decayed and many urgently need treatment.

### Scope.

I suggest, therefore, to commence with the teeth of all children between the ages of seven and nine be specially examined and attended to as far as possible. By this, and subsequent attention where possible, much of the decay, which is met with at the inspections before children leave school, will probably be avoided. Taking the children aged seven to nine, as roughly, about 470 per annum, it follows that about 375 children would require treatment.

Acting on the principle of the greatest good for the greatest number, it is essential that regulation work involving the use of apparatus or elaborate root treatment should not be undertaken ; filling where possible and extractions where fillings are useless must be the rule observed.

### Staff.

One dentist working about three hours at a session can see and treat about 10 new cases. If the services of a dentist were engaged for one half day, once a week, during the school year, it would therefore be possible to carry out treatment to about 400 cases per year ; the actual number of children seen would be somewhat less than this, as some children might require two or more consultations. This, although a comparatively small number in each year, would ultimately produce an appreciable influence for good by preventing decay at later ages.

The services of a nurse would be necessary for assisting the dentist, clearing up afterwards, &c. It might be possible to spare the school nurse for this purpose, at any rate at first.

In a limited number of cases the administration of " gas " would be required : for this the service of a medical practitioner would be necessary, special cases being collected on one day for this purpose and several dealt with at one session.

## Accommodation.

The clinic room at Radnor House could be easily adapted for use as a consulting room for the dentist, and the hours of attendance arranged so as to avoid clashing with the ordinary school clinic. The hall would serve as a waiting room as at present; the laying on of water and the provision of a fixed basin would be necessary, otherwise no structural alteration would be required.

## Estimated Expenditure.

I have consulted the Surveyor as to the cost of this work and he reports as follows :—

“ I have been requested by the Medical Officer to report with regard to the cost of supplying and fixing a sink in the Medical Inspection Room at Radnor House, and I estimate the cost of the work, including the provision of drainage and the necessary means of hot water supply, at the sum of £15 os. od. As there is at present no hot water supply in connection with the Caretaker’s kitchen, I have included in the estimate for fixing a gas boiler in the scullery, which would then be available for use for the supply of hot water for both purposes.”

The provision of hot water for the Caretaker’s kitchen, if agreed to, would not, I presume, be wholly a charge on the dental clinic account.

A proper dental chair and a supply of the necessary instruments, dressings, &c., would be required; these need not be of an elaborate character.

## Preliminary.

	£	s.	d.
Apparatus and instruments ... ..	44	13	8
Printing, Registers, and Stationery ...	5	0	0
Table, &c. ... ..	2	0	0
	<hr/>		
	51	13	8
Water supply, sink, &c. ... ..	15	0	0
	<hr/>		
	£66	17	8
	<hr/>		

**Annual.**

			£	s.	d.
Dentist and Anæsthetist	...	...	50	0	0
Drugs	...	...	3	0	0
Stationery, stamps, &c.	...	...	3	0	0
Other expenses, say...	...	...	4	0	0
			<hr/>		
			£60	0	0
			<hr/>		

If the dentist were employed for less than the suggested weekly attendance, the annual cost would be proportionately reduced, but the initial expense would, of course, remain the same.

**Repayment of Part Cost of Treatment.**

It appears to be the rule in all places to make a charge for each attendance in most cases.

The London County Council charge from one shilling downwards : at Reading the scale is :—

<i>Average wages of parent.</i>				<i>Charge.</i>
Under 24s.	...	...	..	free.
24s. to 27s. 6d.	...	...	...	3d.
27s. 6d. to 30s.	...	...	..	6d.
30s. and over	...	...	...	9d.

and at Worthing the arrangement is practically the same. At Bromley a uniform charge of 6d. per attendance is made ; the Care Committee providing the money from charitable sources in cases of poverty, and last year in this way £16 3s. 6d. was repaid at Bromley. In each place the amount to be paid is demanded before treatment is commenced.

**General Remarks.**

I am strongly of opinion that even a modified amount of treatment such as that suggested would be of great benefit. It must, however, be



borne in mind that it is not sufficient to open a dental clinic and expect a large amount of willing attendance on the part of the cases needing treatment. In several places the number of parents who refuse to have their children's teeth attended to amounts to 50 per cent. of those receiving notices, but as so many require treatment there would probably be no lack of material after a time. It would probably be necessary to institute an educative campaign at the schools for a short time before the opening of the clinic actually took place.

I am, Sir, Ladies and Gentlemen,  
Your obedient Servant,

*George H. Dupont.*

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*School Medical Officer.*

PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENT,  
RADNOR HOUSE, TWICKENHAM,  
*August 14th, 1913.*



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